Shojo Beat Manga
NANA
HOTEL
PARENTAL ADVISORY
EXPLICIT CONTENT
Story & Art by
Ai Yazawa
18

Shojo Beat

NANA Vol. 18

Story & Art by Ai Yazawa

NANA

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The Story of Nana

Nana "Hachi" Komatsu and Nana Osaki meet by chance on a train headed for Tokyo. Their personalities and the environments they grew up in are very different, but by fate or by chance, they meet again and become roommates...

As the New Year approaches, Trapnest goes to England to record, while Blast prepares for a Christmas Eve thank-you party for their fan club. On the guest list is Misato Uehara from Osaka. When the other Misato (Mai) finds out, she tries to keep Nana and Misato from meeting, but they do see each other at the party, and Yasu starts to realize that the two girls are related.

Around the same time, Kurata, a photographer for *Weekly Search,* pays a visit to Hachi and tells her that Nana's mother is still alive. Provoked by Kurata, Hachi departs on a mission to Osaka. But Nana's mother Misuzu denies that Nana is her daughter. When *Search* publishes an article about the Uehara family, Misuzu disappears again. Of course, Hachi reads the magazine article. Realizing how Nana must be feeling, Hachi insists she'll stay with Nana 'til Ren returns. The New Year comes, and Blast is doing great, but...?!

♥For the complete story, please check out *Nana*, volumes 1 - 17.
Available in bookstores everywhere!!

THE KEY TO YOUR WHEREABOUTS...

...WHICH I COULDN'T FIND,
NO MATTER HOW HARD I LOOKED...

...IS FINALLY IN MY HANDS...

...NOW THAT I'VE STOPPED SEARCHING.

WILL YOU LET ME...
...OPEN THE DOOR?

ANY PLACE WAS FINE WITH ME...
...AS LONG AS I COULD SEE THE SEA.

NANA

ナナ

[Chapter 66]

AGORAD
ENGLAND?

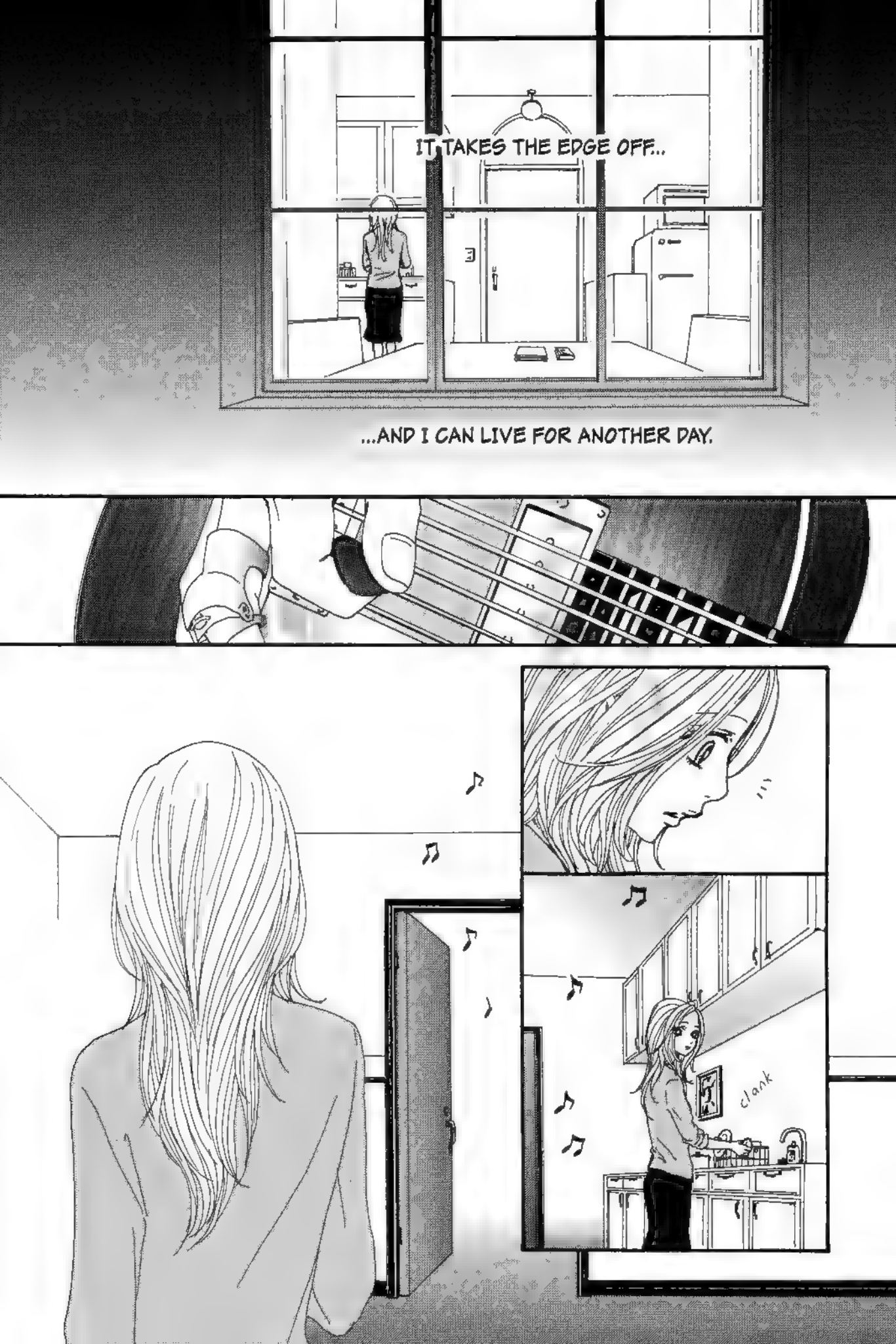
...WE DON'T KNOW THAT FOR SURE.
WELL ...
YEAH ...
HE'S SPEAKING BRITISH ENGLISH.
BRITISH ENGLISH ?
YOU CAN HEAR A MAN'S VOICE IN THE BACKGROUND WHILE NANA'S SINGING. HE PROBABLY WORKS THERE.

BRITISH PEOPLE SPEAK A TOTALLY DIFFERENT KIND OF ENGLISH THAN AMERICANS.
REALLY?
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT.
I'M AMAZED YOU CAN TELL THE DIFFER-ENCE.
OR ARE WE JUST STUPID?
WELL, I SPEAK BRITISH ENGLISH.
BUT WITH A BIT OF A SWEDISH ACCENT.
OH.
SURE ...
I THINK THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE NANA'S IN ENGLAND.
JUST 'CAUSE THERE'S A BRITISH ACCENT ON THE TAPE DOESN'T MEAN SHE'S IN ENGLAND.
BUT THINK ABOUT IT... MOST PEOPLE WOULDN'T MOVE TO A COUNTRY THEY KNOW NOTHING ABOUT.
NANA WAS SO INFLUENCED BY BRITISH PUNK, LIKE THE SEX PISTOLS AND VIVIENNE WESTWOOD.

SHE PROBABLY HEARD LOTS OF STORIES FROM REN TOO.
GIMME A SMOKE.
ENGLAND'S A BIG COUNTRY. IT WON'T BE EASY.
YEAH.
LET'S START WITH SEASIDE TOWNS.
...TO SEE IF THIS PUB IN ENGLAND REALLY EXISTS.
THEN LET'S INVES-TIGATE ...
I BET SHE'S IN ENGLAND TOO.
IT'S GOTTA BE EASIER THAN HUNTING HER DOWN.
YEAH, AND...
BUT AT LEAST NOW WE HAVE A CLUE.
YEAH.
BUT ENGLAND'S SURROUNDED BY WATER. THERE'RE A MILLION TOWNS LIKE THAT.

I CAN DIE WHEN-EVER I WANT...

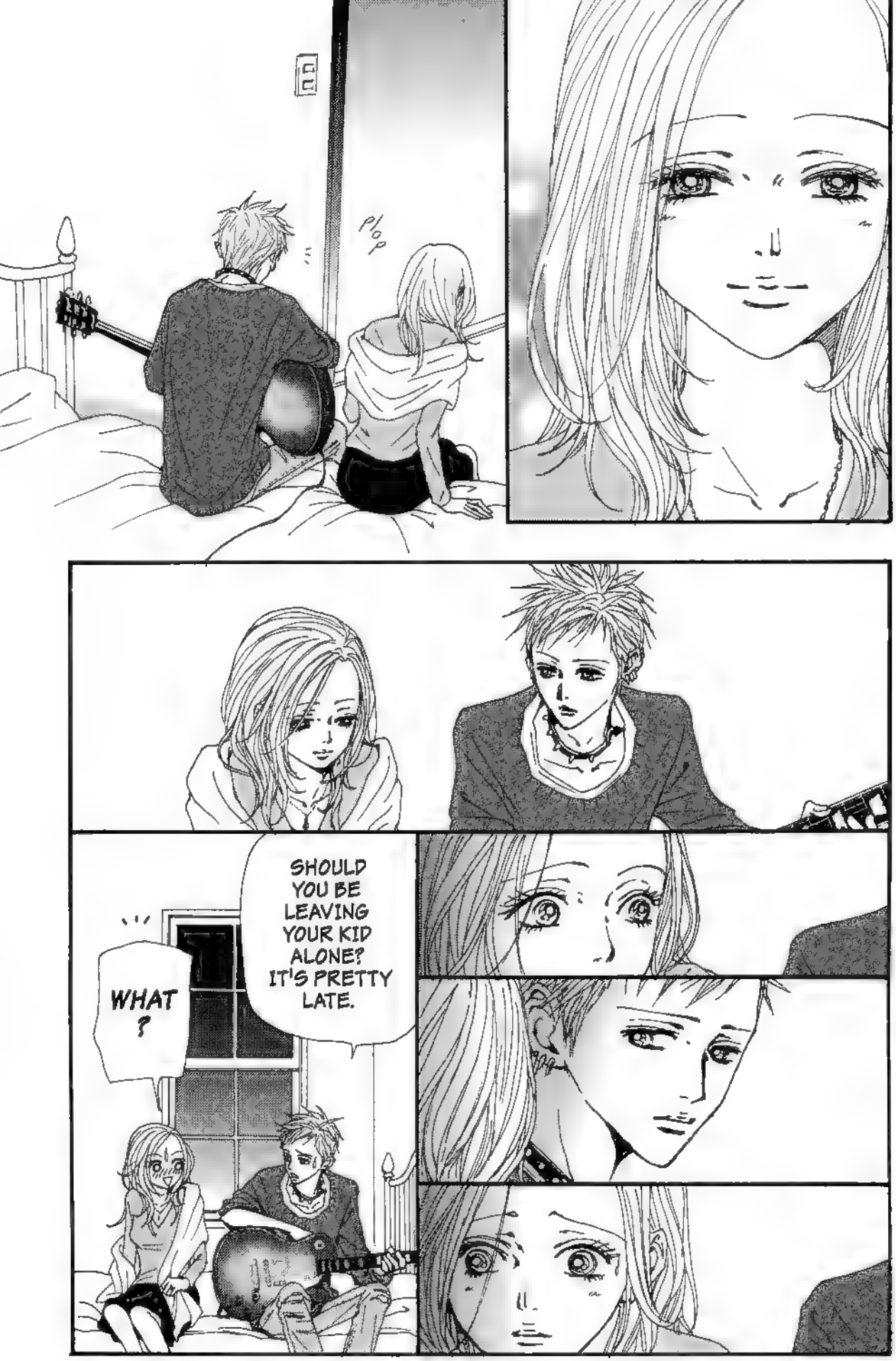
...AS LONG AS I KNOW THE SEA'S NEARBY.


IT TAKES THE EDGE OFF..
...AND I CAN LIVE FOR ANOTHER DAY.
clank

AS LONG AS I PLAY GUITAR I'LL BE HAPPY...
...WITH YOU SINGING.

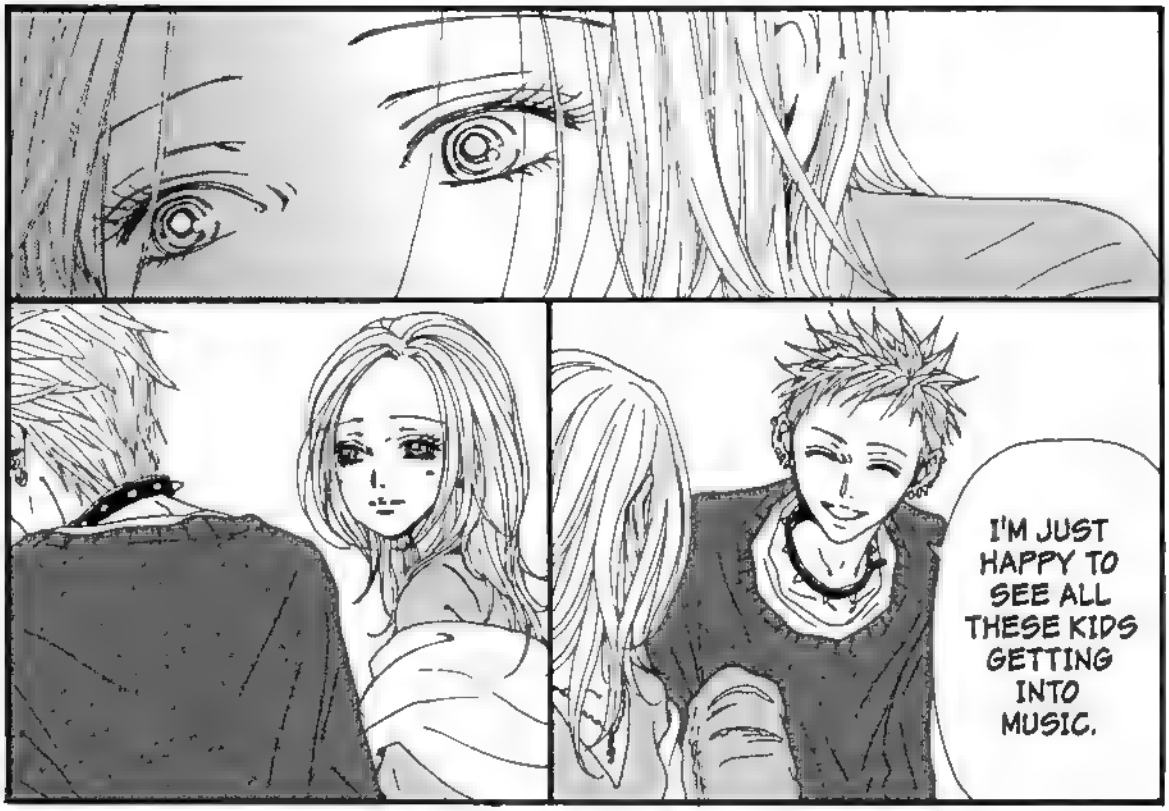
I LOVE THAT SONG.
IT'S THE BEST SONG IN THE WORLD.
I'M IN LOVE WITH YOU.

HER GUITAR MUST BE LONELY WITHOUT HER.
I HAVE TO PLAY IT SOME-TIMES.


plop
SHOULD YOU BE LEAVING YOUR KID ALONE? IT'S PRETTY LATE.
WHAT ?

SHE'S BEEN VISITING HER GRAND-PARENTS SINCE NEW YEAR'S.
SA-TSUKI'S FINE.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME. GO HOME.
WHAT ABOUT YOU, NOBU?
YOU'RE BUSY.
YOU'RE HELPING DRESS PEOPLE IN KIMONOS TOO.
OH.
OH.
IT'S WINTER BREAK. THE HOTEL MUST BE BUSY.
SO I COULDN'T WATCH HER.
I WAS REALLY BUSY DOING PEOPLE'S KIMONOS DURING NEW YEAR'S.
UH, JUST SATSUKI?
BUT I'M GOING TO PICK HER UP TOMORROW.♡
HE COMPLAINS ABOUT EVERY-THING I DO. HE TREATS ME LIKE I'M IN THE WAY.
YEAH ...
BUT DAD'S FINE NOW.
Ah ha ha ha!
I DON'T KNOW IF HE'D RATHER ME TAKE OVER THE BIZ OR GET LOST.

IS CLUB BIZ BOOMING?
YEAH. ♡
THERE'S A LOT OF MUSICIANS IN MY HOMETOWN NOW.
LOTS OF TALENTED YOUNG PUNKS. IT'S FUN. IT'S MEANINGFUL WORK.
I LIKE IT MORE THAN RUNNING THE HOTEL. ♪
I'M SURE. TWO GREAT BANDS IN MUSIC HISTORY CAME OUT OF YOUR TOWN.
THAT'S A BIG DEAL TO KIDS.
KIDS WHO WORSHIPPED BLAST AND TRAPNEST...
...ARE OLD ENOUGH NOW TO START THEIR OWN BANDS AND PLAY SHOWS.
WHEN I THINK ABOUT THAT, IT MAKES ME FEEL SO OLD.
WELL, IF THAT'S TRUE, THEN...
...WHAT WE DID WASN'T FOR NOTHING.


I'M JUST HAPPY TO SEE ALL THESE KIDS GETTING INTO MUSIC.

ONE MORE DAY.
I'LL DO MY BEST FOR ONE MORE DAY...

...AND KEEP ON LIVING THIS LIFE.

HE'S IN ENGLAND AGAIN.
YEAH ...
IS HE ALL RIGHT ON HIS OWN?
WHAT ABOUT REN?
OH...
OVER AT TAKUMI'S PLACE?

HE'S DOING FINE.
HE DIDN'T COME TO LAST YEAR'S FIREWORKS FESTIVAL EITHER.
I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM AT ALL.
IS HE PLAYING GUITAR?
THAT'S ALL HE DOES.

Vrrrooooomm
YOU SHOULD JUST BE GLAD THEY LET YOU BACK IN THE BIZ.
BOO HOO.
I'M SWAMPED NOW.
BUT I'D RATHER PLAY SOME WEIRDO IN AN INDIE FLICK.
YEAH...
MAN, MY HEAD'S COLD.
GOOD ON YA.
SO, YOU'RE STARRING IN ANOTHER ROM-COM THIS SPRING?
I'M WORKING HARD, DOING MY BEST.
I KNOW.
IT'S THE ONLY WAY I CAN MAKE A LIVING.
HOW'S MISATO DOING?

GOOD.
SHE WANTS TO SEE EVERY-ONE.
YOU SHOULD'VE BROUGHT HER OVER WITH YOU.
YEAH, BUT MISATO'S BUSIER THAN I AM.
I'M SURE SHE'S JUST BEING POLITE.
I CAN'T WIN.
Ha ha.
THAT'S OUR MISATO.
SHE OVER-LOADS MY SCHEDULE EVEN MORE THAN GIN DID.
YOU THINK SO?
BY THE WAY...
MISATO SAID WHOEVER LEFT THE TAPE AND PHOTOS IN THE MAILBOX ...
...MUST BE A MEMBER OF THE PAPARAZZI STILL HUNTING DOWN NANA.
THEY'RE HI-RES PHOTOS TAKEN WITH A HIDDEN CAMERA WITH A TELEPHOTO LENS.
AND NORMAL PEOPLE THESE DAYS WOULDN'T USE SUCH LO-FI SOUND EQUIPMENT TO RECORD ANYTHING.
BUT REPORTERS STILL USE TAPE RECORDERS ON ASSIGNMENT.
THEY'RE STUCK IN THE STONE AGE.
WELL, I WONDERED ABOUT THAT TOO...
BUT IF YOU'RE A REPORTER, THIS IS A BIG BREAK.

THERE'S NO WAY TO KNOW UNLESS THE PERSON COMES FORWARD.
IF WE CAN FIGURE THAT OUT, THEN MAYBE WE CAN FIND HER.
THEN WHO DID IT?
WHY WOULD THEY TELL NANA INSTEAD OF GOING PUBLIC?
ALL WE CAN DO IS JUST LOOK FOR THAT PUB.
YOU'RE RIGHT ...
UH, WELL I HOPE WE GET AHOLD OF HER BEFORE SOMETHING LIKE THAT HAPPENS...
WE WON'T NEED TO LOOK FOR HER THEN! Heh ♡
...MAYBE SHE'LL END UP GETTING DEPORTED. ♡
BUT IF SHE'S SINGING IN PUBLIC WITHOUT A WORK VISA...

HACHI THINKS REN SECRETLY PUT THAT STUFF IN HER MAIL-BOX...

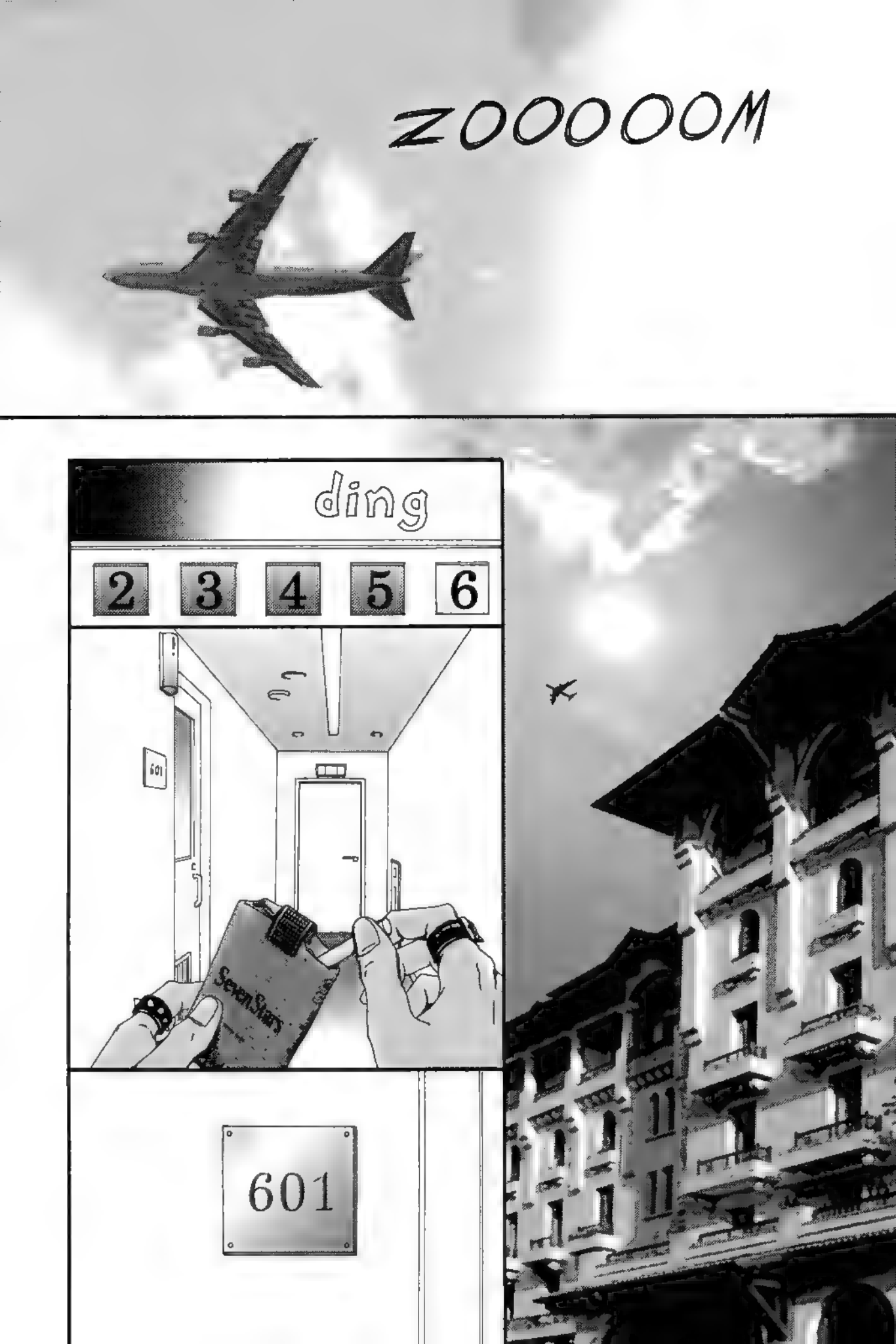
...AS A CHRISTMAS PRESENT. ♡
MAY-BE.
'CAUSE THERE'S NO CHIMNEY.
This next song...

Trapnest...
...was a huge hit back in 2001.

...doing "Trust."
HEY, HACHI...

SO WHY...

...AM I STILL HERE?


ZOOOOOM
ding
2
3
4
5
6
601
Seven Stars
601

click
slam

SHONEN JUMP
SHONEN JUMP
Welcome home!
I made miso soup.
From the wifey
Naked under apron!
YOKOHAMA

Whoa!
WOW!
IT'S HUGE!
EEK!
EEK!
Ah ha ha ha!
GROW UP, YOU FREAKS!
DO I KNOW THESE WEIRDOES?!

I HAD THE SET CONSTRUCTED EARLY SO YOU GUYS COULD START REHEARSING YESTERDAY.
WHERE THE HELL IS HE?
SHIN'S NOT HERE YET.
UH... SORRY.
WHAT?!
DON'T WORRY! ♡
WE STILL HAVE FIFTEEN MORE MINUTES, MATSUO.
IS EVERYONE HERE?
LET'S START THE REHEARSAL.
THEN YOU KNOW HE'S GOING TO BE LATE!
OH NO...
HE SAID HE LEFT HOME HALF AN HOUR AGO.
HOME?
CONGRATU-LATIONS!

YOU MUST BE TIRED TOO, MARI.
NO, IT WAS FUN.
IT'S GOING TO BE THE BEST ALBUM EVER!
YEAH ?
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.
UH...
OH, YEAH ...
I KNOW YOU WON'T FORGET, BUT...
...BLAST IS PLAYING TOMORROW AT YOKOHAMA ARENA.
I'LL COME GET YOU AT FOUR SO WE DON'T HAVE TO RUSH AROUND.
5/ 4 a.m.
FORGET ABOUT IT!
WHAT IF I SAID DON'T GO? YOU'RE GOING ANYWAY, RIGHT?

NO MATTER WHO YOU FELL IN LOVE WITH...
...YOU JUST COULDN'T GIVE UP...
.....
WHO ARE YOU?
I'M MAD 'CAUSE YOU'RE SO INSENSITIVE, YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHY I'M MAD AT YOU!
WHY ARE YOU MAD?
HONEY, I'M HOME! ♡

HEY RACHEL

BUT YOU SAVED MY LIFE.
HOW CAN I THROW IT AWAY?

...LET THE TOUR GO WELL WITHOUT ANY PROB-
...BUT PLEASE, JUST FOR NOW.
I CHOSE THIS PATH OF TURMOIL MYSELF.
WHEN A SUDDEN SHOT FLOWER ACCI-DENTS CAN HAPPEN.
BLACK SHOT

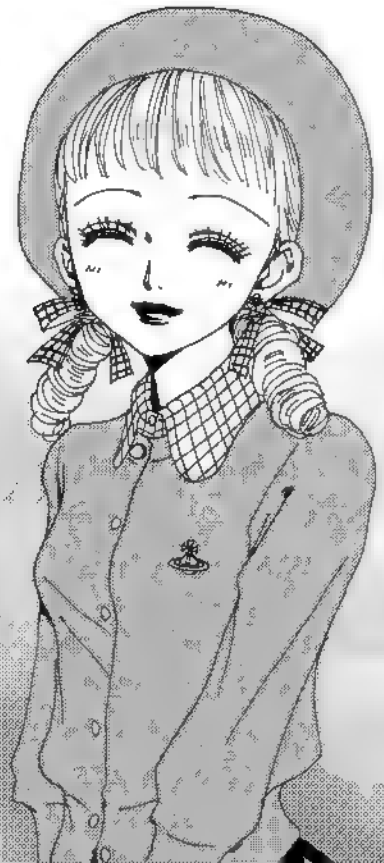
NANA
Chapter 6

AN APARTMENT NEAR AOYAMA CEMETERY ...
tap
Waiting Room 1A
Waiting Room 1B
I CONFIRMED THE APARTMENT NAME.
HE'S LIVING BACK AT HOME.
SHIN'S FROM THAT AREA, BUT...

I COULD NEVER MAKE MYSELF LOVE SHINICHI.
NOT EVER.
MAYBE HE'S OUT PARTYING SOMEWHERE.
BUT I CAN'T IMAGINE SHIN GOING HOME TO HIS DAD'S PLACE...
YEAH?
WE GOT STAFF TO STAKE OUT THE PLACE ALL NIGHT.
WELL, GINPEI WAS WORRIED ABOUT THAT TOO.
SO MAYBE HE ONLY GOES HOME WHEN HIS DAD'S NOT AROUND.
AND SHIN'S FATHER'S OUT OF THE COUNTRY ON BUSINESS.
BUT SHIN NEVER WENT OUT.
YOU'VE GOT TOO MUCH ON YOUR PLATE, YASU.
HONESTLY, I HAVEN'T HAD TIME TO WORRY ABOUT SHIN.
THE ONLY TIME I SEE HIM IS DURING BAND STUFF.
I DIDN'T REALIZE SHIN WAS GOING OUT SO MUCH.

AS THE BAND MANAGER, I'M ORDERING YOU...
NO, NO.
I'M SORRY FOR BEING DEPENDENT ON YOU FOR SO MUCH.
YOU WERE ALL WORRIED ABOUT MISUZU AND MISATO TOO.
...AND JUST CONCENTRATE ON THE TOUR STARTING TOMORROW!
...TO LET EVERYONE TAKE CARE OF THEM-SELVES...

ALL RIGHT.
SORRY.

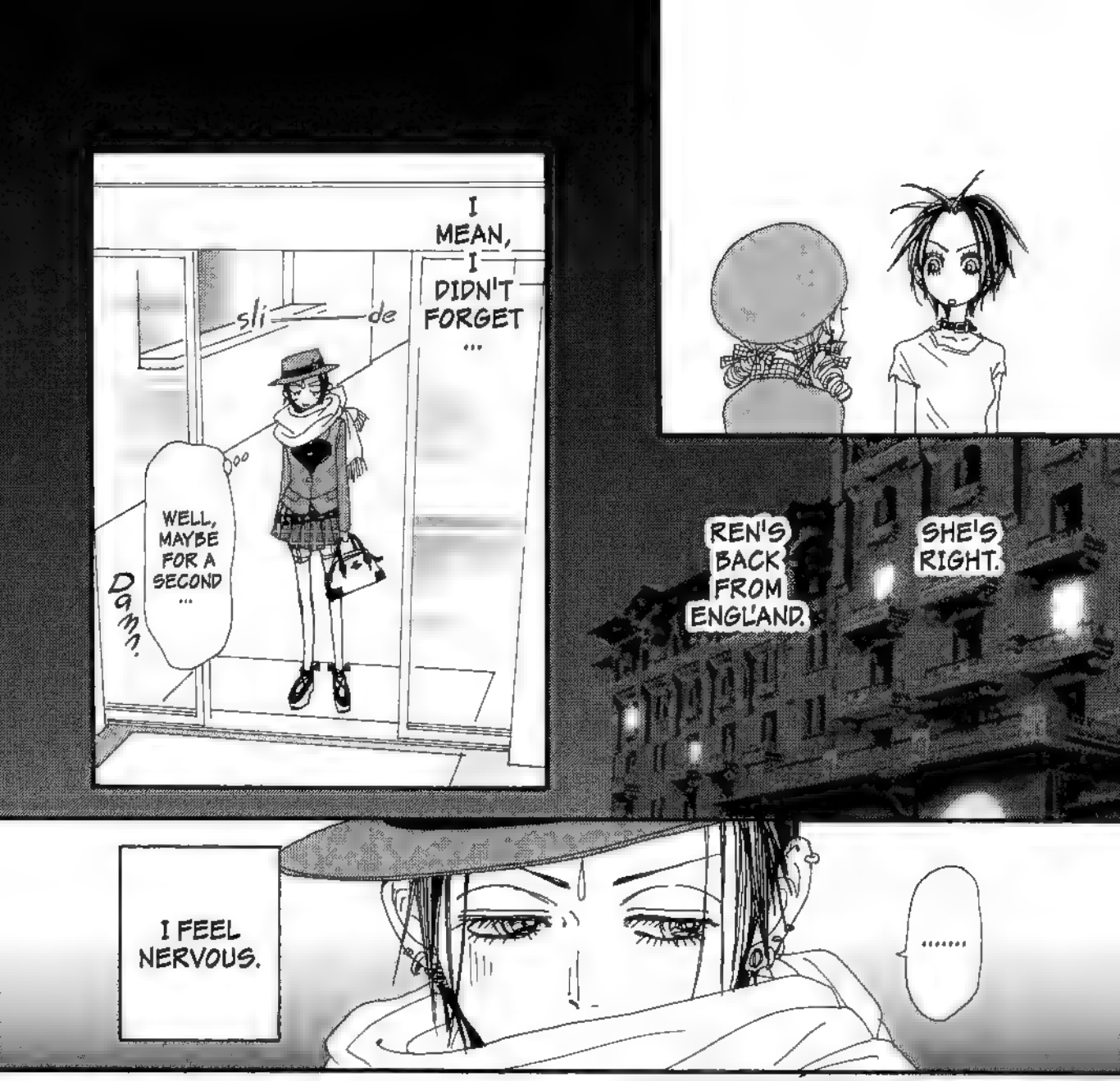


GOOD MORN-ING!
SORRY WE'RE LATE.
...
YOU MADE HIM LATE!
NO, I WENT TO PICK HIM UP AT THE RIGHT TIME...
YOU HAVE TO WATCH HIM BETTER!
.....
SHIN...
...YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUSH YOURSELF IF YOU'RE NOT FEELING GOOD.
WE CAN DO THE REHEARSAL TOMORROW.
I'M ALL RIGHT.
I JUST OVER-SLEPT.
...
OVER-SLEPT ?!
DAMN ...
THE MORE I TRY NOT TO WORRY, THE MORE I WORRY!
I HAVEN'T TRAINED MYSELF.
TRAINED FOR WHAT?
ALL RIGHT!
I'LL CHEW YOU OUT LATER. LET'S START REHEARS-ING!

HEY KAWANO, YOU'RE HERE! ♡

LET HER SING HER HEART OUT.
WELL, IT'S THE BIG DAY THEY'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.
HER VOICE IS ALREADY KINDA STRAINED.
BUT MAYBE SHE SHOULDN'T SING FULL-ON RIGHT NOW AND SAVE HER VOICE FOR THE CONCERT.
SHE'S HITTING ALL THE HIGH NOTES PER-FECTLY.
NANA'S AT THE TOP OF HER GAME.
WE CAN'T LET HER REST ON HER LAURELS.
...FROM A MANU-FACTURED ONE-HIT WONDER BAND.
WE NEED THIS TOUR TO CHANGE THEIR REPUTATION ...
AND THEY NEED TO WORK EVEN HARDER AFTER THIS.♡

NO WAY!
THE CROWD'LL EAT YOU ALIVE.
YOU CAN SAY NO, BUT SHE'LL PROBABLY DO IT ANYWAYS.
CAN I STAGE DIVE WHILE WE'RE PLAYING?
HEY...
THAT WAS AWE-SOME! ♡
BUT WHAT A WAY TO DIE!
YOU GOT A RADIO INTERVIEW TO DO BEFORE YOU DIE!
NOBU!
...
Chop chop!
YEAH! ♪
STAGE DIVE TO DEATH!
'CAUSE REN'S HOME WAITING FOR YOU. ♡
I CLEARED YOUR SCHED-ULE.
ANY INTER-VIEWS?
WHAT'S MY SCHED-ULE?
AND I'LL JAM OUR NEW SONG TOO! ♪
NO PROB-LEM! ♡



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IT'S JUST LIKE PLAYING A GOOD SHOW.

THEN THINGS WILL BE ALL RIGHT ON THEIR OWN.

I HAVE TO TRY TO RELAX AND ENJOY MYSELF.

I'M NERVOUS 'CAUSE I FEEL LIKE I CAN'T MAKE ANY MISTAKES.

WELL, HERE GOES NOTH-ING!
HELLO, DARLIN'. ♡
.....
CONGRATU-LATIONS! ♡ SORRY FOR COMING HOME LATE.
I'LL MAKE DINNER RIGHT AWAY. ♡
fwish ♡
JUMP
NO, DON'T.
YOU'RE TIRED, AND YOU'RE ACTING WEIRD.
YOU SHOULD SEE A DOCTOR.
...
I'M JUST REALLY HUNGRY!
And you better be too!
THEN LET'S JUST GET TAKE OUT.
YOU'RE REALLY TIRED.
Sushi

SO REN...
HOW'D RECORD-ING GO?
YOKO-HAMA ARENA'S TOTALLY MASSIVE!
NO, I'M NOT TIRED AT ALL.
ACTUALLY, I FEEL REALLY HYPER!
THAT'S WHAT HACHI SAID.
IS THE SOUND REALLY BETTER 'CAUSE IT'S LESS HUMID IN ENGLAND?
WELL ...
MAYBE IN THE SUMMERTIME, BUT THINGS AREN'T THAT DIFFERENT IN THE WINTER.
IT'S ACTUALLY PROBABLY MORE HUMID THERE NOW.
WHAT THE HELL?
WHAT ?

DUNNO ...
I GUESS 'CAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT PEOPLE WATCHING YOU.
ESPE-CIALLY FOR REIRA.
Ha ha ha
IS SHE ALL RIGHT?
SO TAKUMI'S JUST LYING TO HACHI.
TO BRAG?
SO THEN WHY BOTHER GOING TO ENGLAND TO RECORD?

I THINK THERE'S SOME-THING GOING ON THERE.
WELL, I THINK SO.
THAT'S SO WEIRD...
IS THAT WHAT IT SEEMS LIKE?
I FEEL BAD FOR HACHI.
WHY DOES TAKUMI SPOIL REIRA SO MUCH?

WELL, I THINK ...
...IF THEY'D GOTTEN TOGETHER A LONG TIME AGO, THINGS WOULDN'T BE SO COMPLICATED NOW.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN COMPLICATED?
WELL ...
...LIKE WITH HACHIKO.
THEN SHE WOULDN'T HAVE HAD TO BREAK UP WITH NOBU.
WHAT'RE YOU HIDING FROM ME?
THIS SOUNDS TOO WEIRD.
YOU BETTER NOT HAVE HOOKED UP WITH REIRA.
....
REIRA DOESN'T THINK OF ME LIKE THAT... NEVER DID.
I DON'T KNOW WHY.
'CAUSE I'M NOT BALD?
Ha ha ha!
THAT'S WHAT YOU DESERVE!
SO... HOW'S SHIN DOING?
NOT TOO GOOD.
NO WILL TO LIVE, ACTUALLY.
HE SEEMS TOTALLY LOST.

GIVE HIM A PEP TALK BEFORE THE CONCERT, WILL YA?
REN, YOU'RE COMING TO OUR SHOW TOMORROW, RIGHT?
.....
PLEASE DON'T SLEEP IN TOMORROW.
beep
.....
ACTUALLY, GIN TOLD ME TO TAKE YOU BACK TO THE DORMS TONIGHT...
F LAYLA
D 02/01 21:42
S I'm back
ring
HEY, SHIN...

I flew back to Japan today. No matter what you think of me, no matter who says what, I can't forget you, Shin. I don't want to pretend like nothing happened. I want to talk to you again, so please call me.

I'm waiting for you to call me.

I'M SORRY.
I KNOW.
BUT IF YOU'RE LATE AGAIN, IT'S EVERY-ONE'S PROBLEM.
SO JUST LET ME DO WHAT I WANT WHEN I'M NOT WORKING.
I PROMISE I'LL GET UP ON TIME TOMOR-ROW.
ALL RIGHT.
I'LL COME GET YOU EARLY IN THE MORNING. IS THAT COOL?
I'm waiting for
PLEASE UNDER-STAND THE POSITION I'M IN.
SO YOU CAN SNEAK IN THE DORM WHILE EVERY-ONE'S STILL ASLEEP.
BUT RE-HEARSAL'S IN THE AFTER-NOON.
.....
SLUMP
ALL RIGHT. I'M SORRY.

LOOK ...
I KNOW IT'S ANNOYING. YOU JUST GO BACK AND FORTH BETWEEN WORK AND THE DORMS. YOU'VE GOT NO TIME TO GO OFF ON YOUR OWN.
IT'D DRIVE ME CRAZY.
BUT EVERYONE ELSE CAN PULL IT OFF. THEY'RE SOLID.
I'M THE SCREW UP.
OH REALLY?
YASU AND NOBU HAVE BOTH HOOKED UP WITH GIRLS IN THE DORMS. THEY'RE HAVING FUN.
THEY'RE SCREW-ING AROUND!
THEN MAYBE I SHOULD HOOK UP WITH MISATO... ♡
SHE'S RIGHT NEXT DOOR. ♡
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING? DON'T!
THE PREZ WILL KILL YOU!
WHAT THE HELL?
WHY WOULD HE CARE?

click
THAT'S ALL I MEANT.
WELL, MISATO, I MEAN MAI, IS A VERY COMPETENT STAFFER WHO THE PREZ REALLY TRUSTS.
IT'S SUMIKA! ♡
HEY!
SUMIKA MORISHITA ALWAYS COMES TO OUR CONCERTS.
SHE'S MY FAN. ♡
I just used you to get what I want.
Don't make me laugh.
OH DAMN!
I WAS WATCHING THIS SHOW EVERY WEEK!
I FORGOT ABOUT IT!
REALLY ?
DO I KNOW YOU?
YOU WATCH SOAPS?

YOU'RE GOING TO ACT IN ONE, RIGHT? ♡
WATCH IT AND STUDY UP.
THEN I GOT TOTALLY ADDICTED.
WATCH IT WITH ME! IT'S REALLY GOOD! ♡
HUH?
HACHI TAPES IT AND MAKES ME WATCH IT.
I'M SURE SHE'S GOT IT ALL ON TAPE.
IT'S COOL, THOUGH.
to be continued
Ha ha ha
GINPEI TRIED.
I THOUGHT THEY'RE MAKING YOU DO IT.
NO WAY.
THIS TAMAGO-YAKI'S* GOOD!
HE LOOKS SCARY BUT HE'S A GOOD GUY. ♥
BUT THE PREZ TURNED IT DOWN AND SAID I DON'T HAVE TO IF I HATE IT THAT MUCH.
I WANTED TO SEE YOU ON TV. I THINK IT'D BE HILARIOUS.
WELL ...
THAT'S TOO BAD.

*omelet roll

HACHI TAUGHT ME.
I KNOW, RIGHT?
.....
WOW.
THAT'S THE WAY SHE ROLLS.
YEAH...
JUST LIKE HACHIKO. ♡
THAT'S WHY IT'S SO FLUFFY.
...AND REN SEEMS TO BE HAVING A GOOD TIME.
...
Ha ha!
WE'RE MAKING GOOD CONVER-SATION...
crank
THINGS ARE GOING WELL.

RYOT
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?
JUMP
IF THINGS STAY LIKE THIS...
...WE COULD LIVE TOGETHER FOREVER.
I'M HANGING OUT WITH HACHI AGAIN.
THE BAND'S DOING WELL.
EVERY-THING'S ALL RIGHT.
STOMP
sli——de
NO PROBLEMS.
click
sli——de
STOMP
GOOD EVENING.
STOMP
STOMP

STOMP
STOMP
STOMP
SHINICHI?

Step
WHAT'S A CELEBRITY LIKE YOU DOING HERE?
LONG TIME NO SEE.
.....
IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU LEARNED TO SPEAK JAPANESE.
HELLO, I'M TALKING TO YOU!

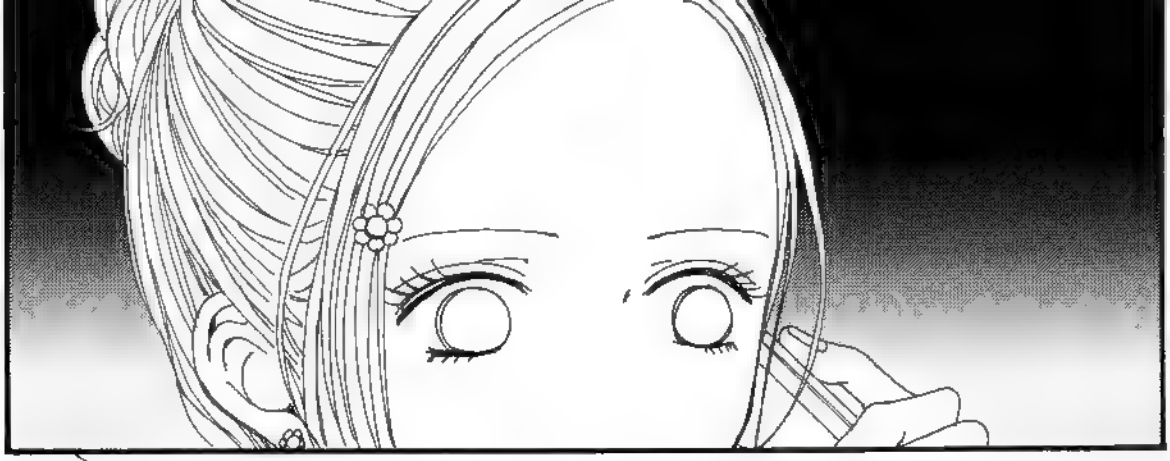
I...
...CAME TO PICK UP MY STUFF...
YOUR ROOM'S GONE, DUDE.
DAD TURNED IT INTO HIS LIBRARY.

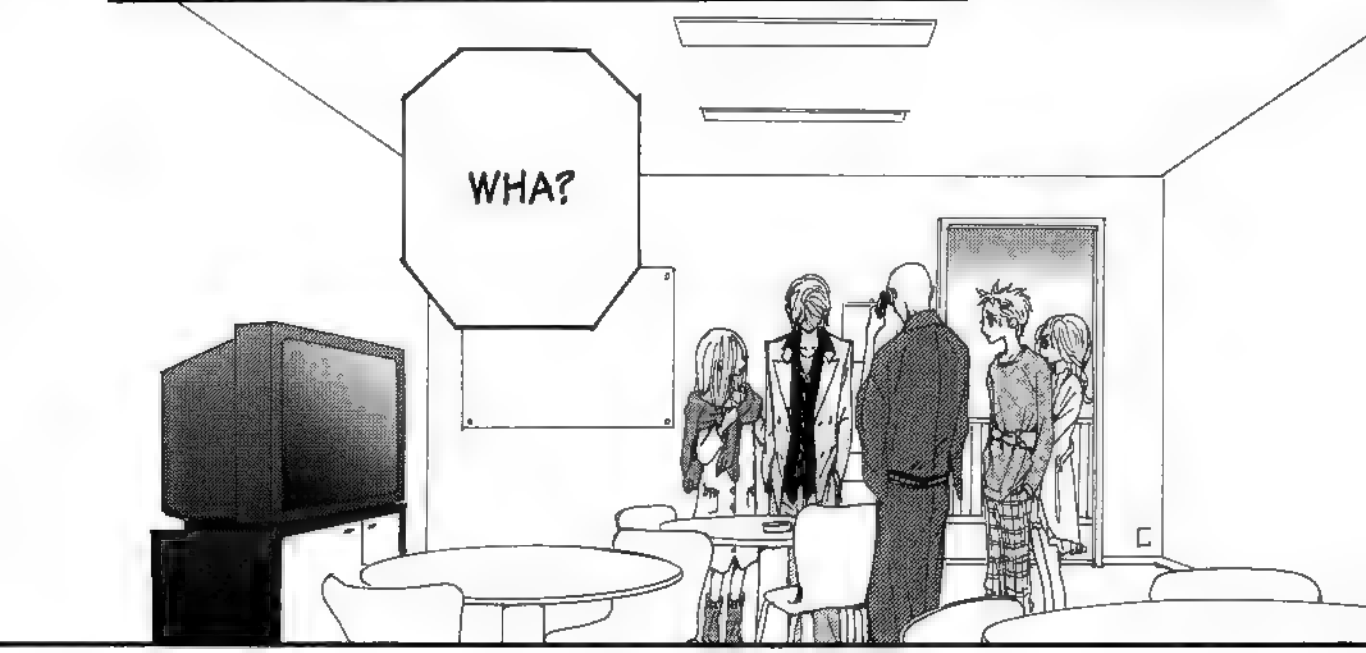
...OR DYING ONSTAGE?
DYING IN REN'S ARMS...
...I WONDERED WHICH WOULD BE BETTER...
AS I CAME AGAIN AND AGAIN...
THAT NIGHT, I WAS WRAPPED IN REN'S ARMS, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A MONTH.

IF I CAN LIVE HAPPILY WITH REN...
...AND SING AS MUCH AS I WANT...
...I WON'T REGRET A THING, EVEN IF I DIE ALONE IN THE GUTTER.
BUT WHY DOES IT MATTER?

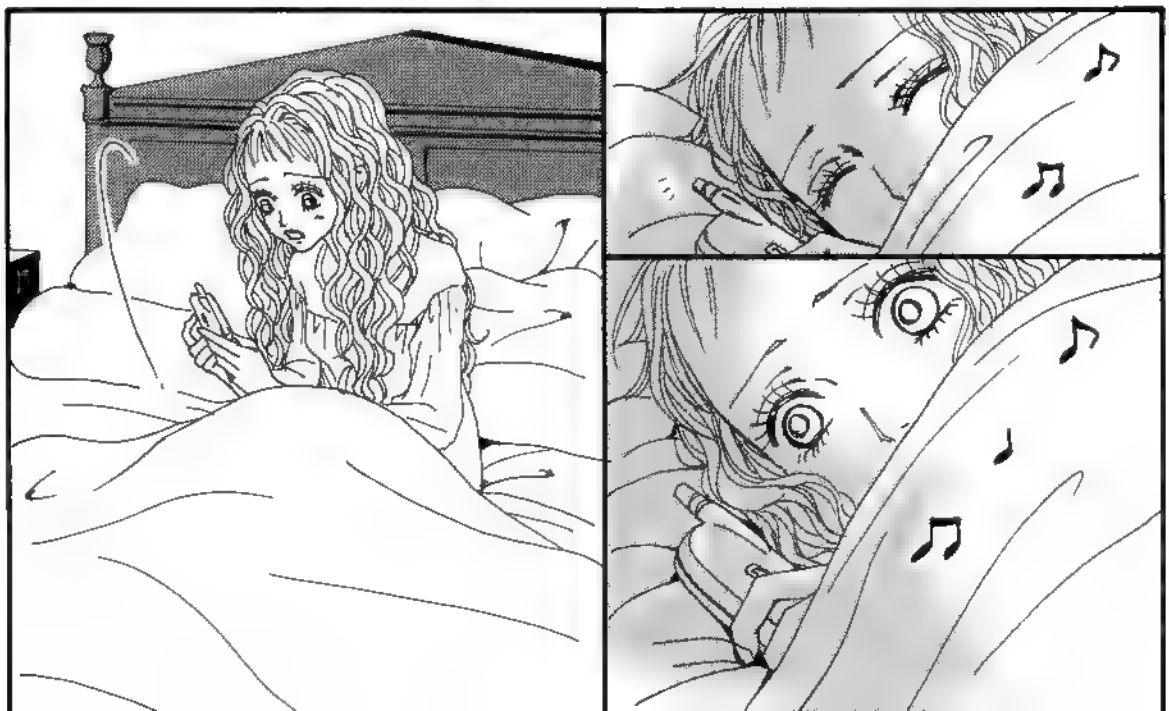
WHAT'S IMPORTANT IS HOW YOU LIVE YOUR LIFE.
ARE YOU STILL MAD AT ME?
BLAST'S CONCERT IS TONIGHT, SO I'M GOING OUT.
HEY, TAKUMI! ♡
NO.

.....
RIGHT
SACHI?
NOT AT ALL.
GOOD MORN-ING!
HI, YASU!
ARE YOU PSYCHED FOR THE TOUR TO START?!
ring~
IS SHIN OVER THERE?
NANA.





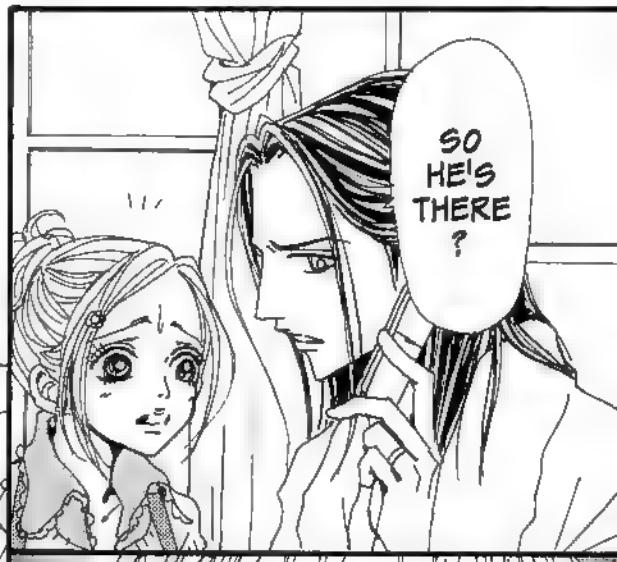
ring———ooo



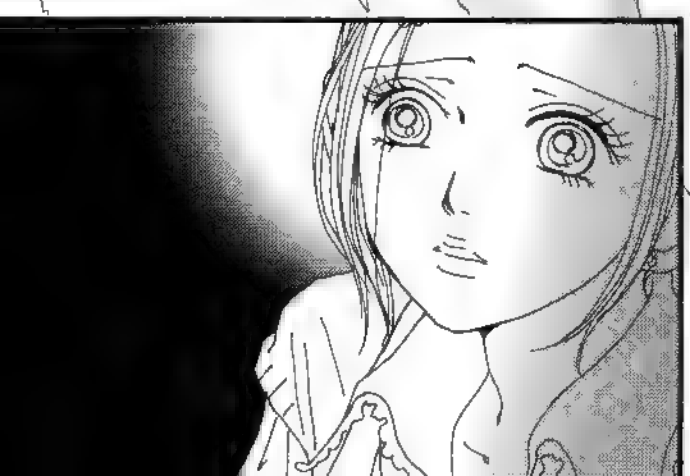
REIRA?
IS SHIN WITH YOU?
Takumi
.....
HELLO?
IF YOU'RE BACK WITH HIM, TELL ME THE TRUTH.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIE. I KNOW EVERY-THING.

HOW'D YOU KNOW?

I CAN TELL JUST BY WATCHING YOU.
YOU THOUGHT I DIDN'T NOTICE?


SO HE'S THERE?

WHO TOLD YOU AND WHAT DO YOU KNOW?!
NO, HE'S NOT!



IF HE'S THERE, PUT HIM ON THE PHONE.
HE'S NOT HERE...
THERE'S NO WAY HE'D COME OVER...
CLICK
FINE.
ALL RIGHT THEN.

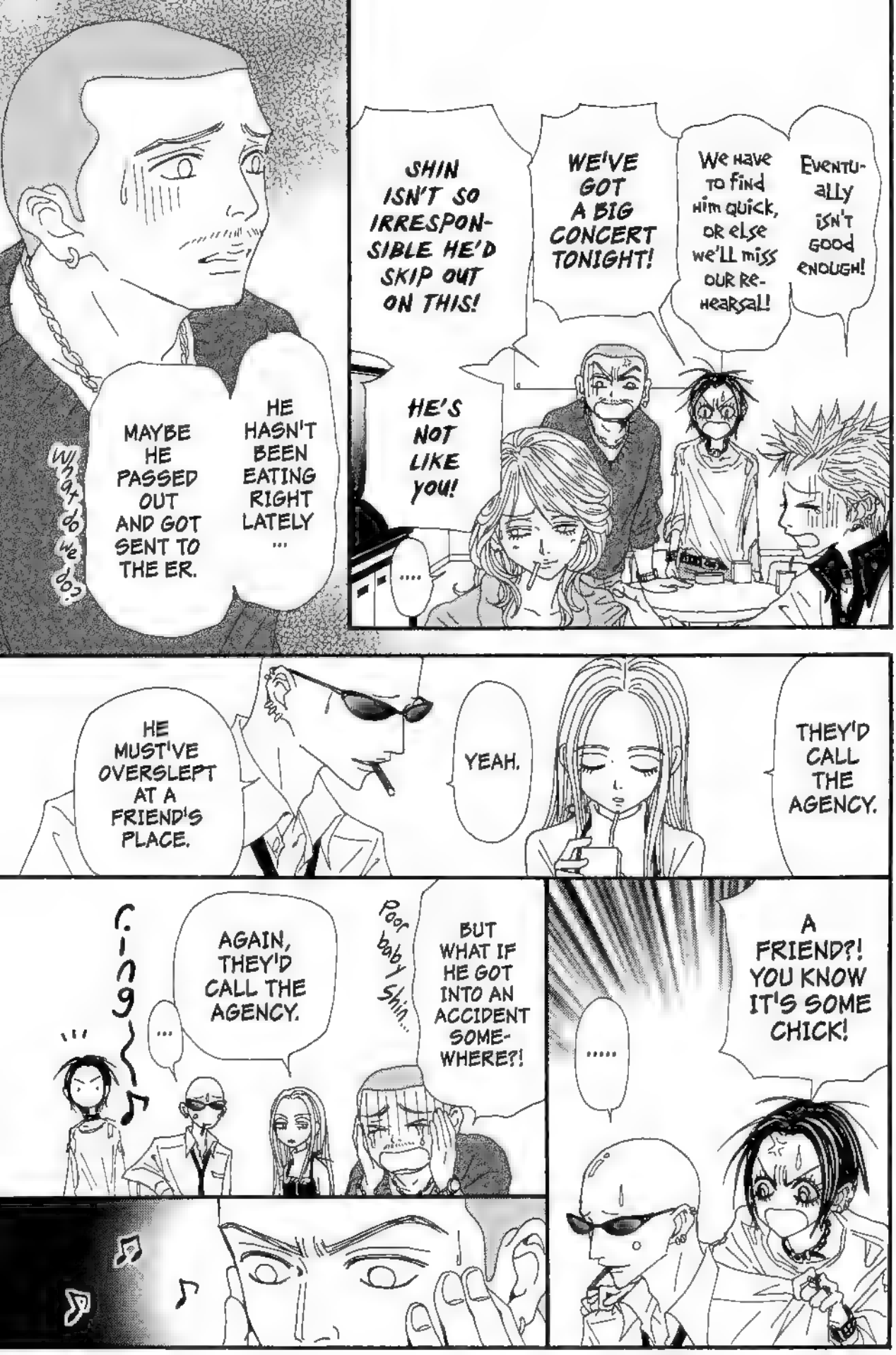
ding dong
02/02 (Sat)
08:27
ding dong
WHOOSH
...
ding dong

REN ...
WHAT'S WRONG ?
SHIN'S REALLY NOT HERE?
WHY?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH SHIN?!
I'M SO SORRY!

DON'T APOLO-GIZE! IT'S TOO LATE!
AND WHAT DO YOU MEAN, HE'S NOT ANYWHERE?!
DID YOU REALLY LOOK FOR HIM?!
GINPEI!
ACCORD-ING TO HIS ASSIS-TANT...
...HE DIDN'T COME DOWN TO THE LOBBY, AND HE WOULDN'T ANSWER HIS CELL PHONE...
...SO HE RANG THE DOOR-BELL.
WHERE'S SHIN?!
DID YOU FIND HIM?

HE SAW SHIN IN THE HALLWAY YESTERDAY, BUT SHIN DIDN'T GO IN THE APART-MENT...
ACTUALLY, HE NEVER STAYED THERE AT ALL.
THEN A GUY WHO'S APPARENTLY SHIN'S OLDER BROTHER ANSWERED ...
YOU KNOW ANYWHERE ELSE SHIN MIGHT BE?
YES.
THERE'S THIS APART-MENT...
WHOSE APART-MENT?

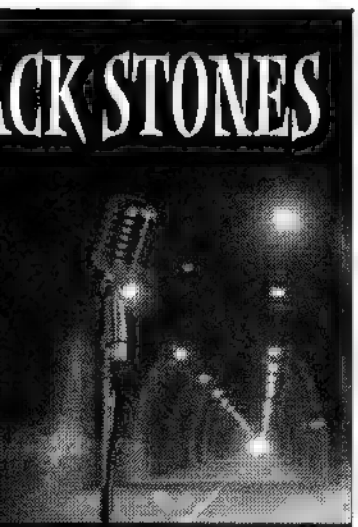
I ONLY DID WHAT I WAS TRAINED TO DO BY A WOMAN WHO'S A PERV AND INTO PRETTY BOYS.
THERE'S A LOT MORE WHERE I CAME FROM.
THAT WOMAN TAUGHT HIM...
DRINKIN' AND SMOKIN' ...
...THE EVIL WAYS OF THE WORLD.
HE'LL COME BACK EVENTUALLY.
I DON'T SEE WHY YOU'RE MAKING THIS INTO SUCH A BIG DEAL.

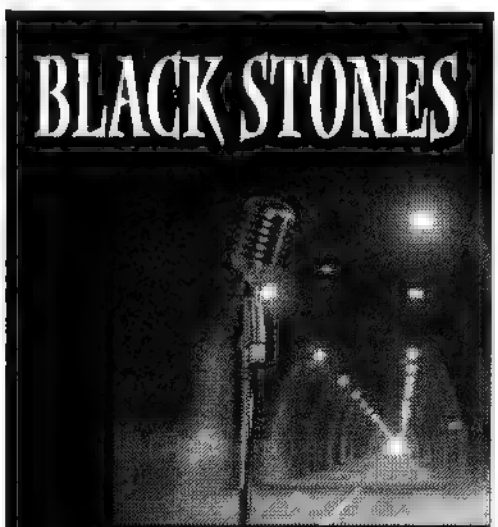

What do we do?
HE HASN'T BEEN EATING RIGHT LATELY ...
MAYBE HE PASSED OUT AND GOT SENT TO THE ER.
SHIN ISN'T SO IRRESPONSIBLE HE'D SKIP OUT ON THIS!
WE'VE GOT A BIG CONCERT TONIGHT!
We have to find him quick, or else we'll miss our rehearsal!
Eventually isn't good enough!
HE'S NOT LIKE YOU!
....
HE MUST'VE OVERSLEPT AT A FRIEND'S PLACE.
YEAH.
THEY'D CALL THE AGENCY.
...
AGAIN, THEY'D CALL THE AGENCY.
Poor baby Shin...
BUT WHAT IF HE GOT INTO AN ACCIDENT SOMEWHERE?!
A FRIEND?! YOU KNOW IT'S SOME CHICK!
.....

Shikai
HELLO ?
OH YASU...
AN-SWER THE PHONE, QUICK!
STOP ACTING LIKE AN IDIOT!
He got in an accident!
It's the agency ...
I'VE GOT BAD NEWS.
NANA?

WHAT IS IT?
SHIN GOT ARRESTED.

ARE YOU LIVING EVERY DAY...





...LIKE IT'S YOUR LAST...WITH NO REGRETS?

...THAN WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN TO SHIN.

...ABOUT WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN TO OUR TOUR...

I WAS MUCH MORE WORRIED...

NANA

[Chapter 68]

新大阪
しんおおさか
Shin Osaka
しんこうべ
02/02 (Sat) 11:53
beep
Inbox
Clara
Clara
Clara
Shin
Misato
beep
Email Inbox
F Shin
S Re: Hello
D 02/01 13:01

Email
Sorry for the late reply. I'm on my way to Yokohama Arena to rehearse for our concert tomorrow. I overslept and I'm really late. Right now my assistant Shun is bitching and moaning at me.
Menu
It makes sense that you want to tell Nana everything. 'cause you care about your best friend Misato.
I don't think you're being selfish.
CHIKAGE!

It's not better to not tell Nana the truth.
That's just what the people who worry about Nana more than Misato think.
I think you should protect what you think is important to you.
I also think that only Nana can help Misato out.
But I don't know if Nana has the capacity to save someone else.
BUT SHIN INVITED YOU. IF YOU DIDN'T GO, YOU'D REGRET IT FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.
I KNOW IT'S HARD TO HAVE FUN, THINKING ABOUT MISATO.
I'M REALLY GLAD YOU DECIDED TO GO.

SHIN'LL TAKE YOU HOME FOR SURE! ♡
ALL RIGHT. NOW YOU LOOK HOT.
Try to find some time during the after party when you can be alone with Nana and decide what to tell her.
IT'S SHION
OH...
GOOD LUCK!
Pat
okyo) Cloudy, then rai
See you tomorrow.
We all have to hang in there.
chug-a-chug-a...

News Flash . . .
chug-a-chug-a...
. BLACK STONES
questioned by police
for possession of marijuana
CHIKAGE!

POT?
THERE'S NO WAY HE CAN TALK HIMSELF OUT OF THIS.
THEY WERE CAUGHT RED-HANDED.
THE POLICE CAME TO THAT WOMAN RYOKO'S ROOM WHILE HE WAS THERE...
I DON'T KNOW ...
MAYBE SOMEONE TIPPED THEM OFF?
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO THEIR TOUR?
...
BUT WHY'D THE POLICE RAID THE PLACE THEN?

SHIN'S A MINOR. IT'S HIS FIRST OFFENSE, SO HIS PUNISHMENT WON'T BE BAD.
HE'LL BE ALL RIGHT.
WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO SHIN?!
...AND EVEN IF HE DOES, DAMAGE CONTROL WON'T BE EASY.
BUT HE WON'T GET RELEASED FOR A WHILE...
I'LL GO TO THE POLICE.
TO DO WHAT?
DON'T BE SO HARSH.
WHAT A DOWNER.
THAT'S YASU'S LADY FOR YA.
YOU HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THE PUBLIC IMAGE.
...BUT HAVING BLAST GO THROUGH WITH IT WOULD BE HARD.
THEY'RE STILL TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHAT TO DO ABOUT THE TOUR...
I FEEL LIKE THROWING UP.
IT'S OVER.

TO SEE SHIN OF COURSE!
HE MUST BE FEELING SO ALONE RIGHT NOW!
THEY WON'T LET YOU, NANA.
ONLY THE AGENCY'S LAWYER IS ALLOWED TO SEE HIM.
WHY?
THAT'S THE LAW.
HIS FATHER MIGHT BE ABLE TO SEE HIM...
...BUT HE'S OVER-SEAS ON BUSINESS AND JUST TOLD THE LAWYER TO TAKE CARE OF EVERY-THING.
HOW SCREWED-UP IS THAT?
WHAT THE ...?
LET ME SEE HIM...
I'M SHIN'S MOMMY...
THAT ONLY WORKS WHEN YOU'RE PLAYING HOUSE.
NOT IN THE REAL WORLD, HONEY.

BUT IF THEY CANCEL THE TOUR, THE LOSS WILL BE HUGE.
THE FANS WON'T LIKE IT.
IT MAKES ME SICK TO MY STOMACH.
I KNOW.
BUT WHETHER THEY DO THE TOUR OR NOT, SOMEONE'S GOING TO BITCH.
THE PRESIDENT SAID TO GO ON WITH IT AND IGNORE THE PRESS.
HE SAID TO FIND A FILL-IN.
THAT'S WHAT SHIKAI WOULD SAY.
BUT WHO'S GOING TO PLAY BASS?

WHAT?! NO WAY!
HOW LONG'S THEIR MEETING GOING TO LAST?
WE HAVE TO FIND A BASSIST QUICK, OR ELSE WE CAN'T PLAY THE SHOW.
BUT WE DON'T KNOW IF THEY'LL EVEN LET US PLAY THE SHOW.
THEY'RE DIS-CUSSING THAT TOO.
OF COURSE WE'RE PLAYING IT!
SO WHY CAN'T I BE IN THE MEETING?!
I CAN SEE WHY THEY'D KEEP YOU OUT, BUT...
'CAUSE THEY KNOW YOU'D JUST GO IN THERE YELLING. THEY COULDN'T HAVE A RATIONAL DISCUSSION.
DON'T WORRY.
THE PREZ SAID TO GO AHEAD WITH IT. YOU'LL END UP DOING IT EVEN IF YOU DON'T WANT TO.

WHAT'S THE POINT IF ONE OF US ISN'T HERE?
WE'RE AT OUR BEST LIKE THIS, THE FOUR OF US TOGETHER.
I DON'T REALLY FEEL LIKE DOING IT NOW.
I MESSED UP MY NAILS.
OOPS
YOU REALLY THINK WE COULD PLAY WITH JUST ANY BASSIST?!
Ah ha ha!
DON'T MAKE ME BARF!
YOU'RE TALKING LIKE A DORK IN SOME CHEESY TEEN DRAMA!
WHY DON'T YOU ASK REN TO PLAY?
AND I WOULDN'T EITHER.
BUT YOU KNOW THE FANS WON'T BUY IT.
IF THEY CAN PLAY BASS, THEY CAN PLAY.
IT'S JUST BASS!

REN QUIT ON US WAY BACK WHEN.
NO WAY.
WE CAN'T ASK HIM TO DO SOMETHING WHEN HE'S IN TRAPNEST.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAY-ING?!
WE CAN'T DO THAT!
WHY NOT?
REN WOULDN'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH IT, RIGHT?
BUT IF REN APPEARED AS A "SURPRISE GUEST," IT'D BE GREAT, AND THE FANS WOULD BE SO PSYCHED.
I'd be psyched!
IT'D BE ALL THE BUZZ. I BET THE OLD GUYS AT GAIA WOULD SAY YES TO THAT.

YOU CAN'T DO SOMETHING JUST FOR THE HYPE!
beep
HI.
REN?
I GOT A FAVOR TO ASK YOU.
NANA!
WHERE'S YOUR PRIDE?!
I TOSSED THAT OUT A LONG TIME AGO!

WHAT-EVER IT TAKES.
WHAT IS IT?
I HEARD ABOUT SHIN.
?
I JUST WANT TO MAKE IT IN THIS BIZ...
NO, NAOKI SAW IT ON THE NEWS.
GAIA
I'LL DO ANY-THING.
I'M SORRY ...
...BUT LET'S CANCEL THE WHOLE TOUR.

YEAH.
WE'RE REALLY SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED.
PLEASE REN!
EVEN JUST FOR TONIGHT WOULD HELP.

I'M SORRY ...
I JUST CAN'T DO IT.
IF THEY'RE DONE WITH SHIN 'CAUSE OF SOMETHING THIS SMALL, WHAT WOULD THEY DO TO ME?
WHY NOT?

I'M JUST KID-DING.
WHAT DID YOU DO?
WELL, I SERIOUSLY DON'T THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA.
SHOULDN'T YOU PLAY YOUR CARDS RIGHT AND LAY LOW FOR A WHILE?
AT ANY RATE, ALL REQUESTS GO THROUGH MY AGENT.
SMACK
DON'T MESS WITH ME, I'M BEING SERIOUS!
GOD-DAMN IT! WE DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THAT!

WHY SHOULD AN IDIOT LIKE THAT BE IN OUR BAND?!
WHY DO I HAVE TO LAY LOW WHEN SOME IDIOT MADE THIS MESS?!
SHIN'S YOUR BAND-MATE.
SOME IDIOT?
WHEN IT'S NOT SO GOOD, HE'S OUT?
WHEN THINGS ARE GOING GOOD, HE'S YOUR BRO.

WHY WOULD I WANT TO PLAY WITH SOMEONE LIKE THAT?
click
buzzz
ring
DIDN'T WORK OUT?
I KNEW IT WOULDN'T.

SO IT'S CAN-CELLED?
SCOOT
HELLO, YASU?
THE MEET-ING'S OVER?
I UNDER-STAND.
WELL...
OH...
IS THERE ANY WAY WE CAN SEE SHIN?
VROOM

THE PRESIDENT HAS NO CHOICE.
SHIN'S A MINOR.
WE SHOULD APOLOGIZE FOR OUR PART IN IT TOO.
I'M LEAVING IT UP TO YOU, KAWANO.
Oh man
HOW SHOULD I TELL THE PRESIDENT SO HE AGREES WITH THE DECISION?
THIS IS SO DEPRESSING.
Sigh
beep
BUT CANCELING THE WHOLE TOUR IS TOO HARSH.
SHIN WILL FEEL SO GUILTY AND SUFFER FOR THAT.
WE COD-DLED HIM TOO MUCH.
WE OVER-LOOKED HIS SMOKING AND BOOZING.
YEAH ...
THIS REALLY IS ALL HIS FAULT.
THAT'S EXACTLY WHAT HE SHOULD DO.
..

THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DO THAT, ACTUALLY.
THEN SHIN MIGHT GET IT TOGETHER AND MAKE AN HONEST LIVING.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
BUT THE PRESIDENT MIGHT MAKE SHIN SPEND HIS WHOLE LIFE PAYING FOR THE LOSS.
I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN!
WHY?!
IT'S ALL RIGHT ...
THIS IS TOO HEAVY A BURDEN FOR SHIN!
LET'S FIND ANOTHER BASSIST AND AT LEAST RESTART FROM THE OSAKA SHOW!

...IS TO UNDERSTAND YOUR OWN EXISTENCE.
TO FEEL RESPONSIBLE...

BUT...
...IT'S MUCH BETTER THAN MAKING HIM THINK...
...THAT HE'S EXPEND-ABLE.
...IF HIS EXISTENCE CAUSED ALL THIS, HE'LL JUST BLAME HIMSELF.
BUT YASU ...
CAN I BUTT IN HERE?
YOU'RE PUTTING THE BAND ON HOLD...
...'TIL SHIN COMES BACK.

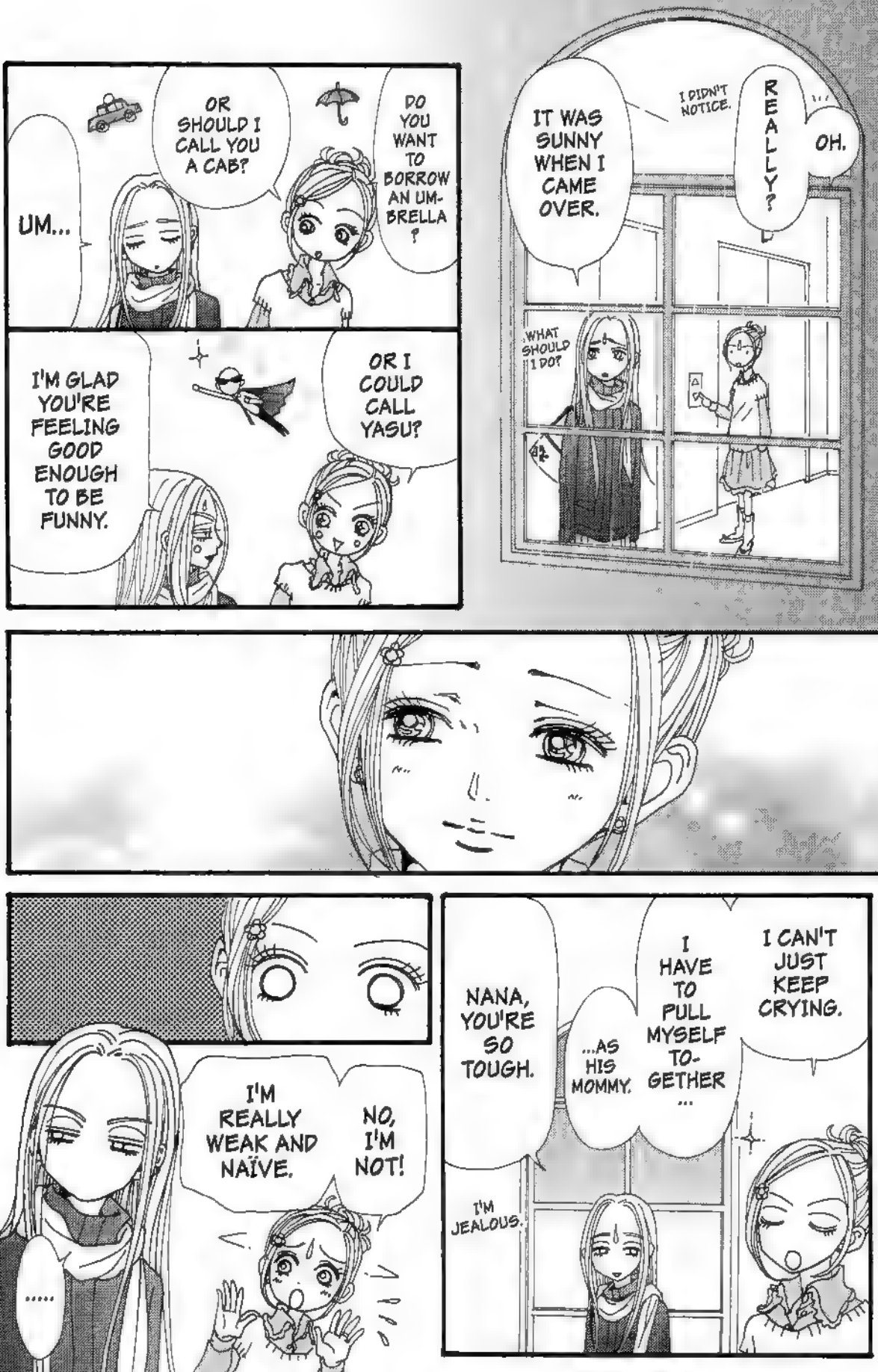
I'M SORRY.
YES...
Weekly SEARCH
Editorial Department
LET'S DO OUR BEST, STEP BY STEP.
IT'S NOT A BAD IDEA TO START THE GAME OVER AGAIN.
YOU MADE YOUR MAJOR LABEL DEBUT DIFFERENTLY THAN YOU WANTED TO.
WHEN I MADE THEM DEBUT WITH SUCH A BANG!
HE BLEW IT, AND NOW THE BAND ITSELF IS AT RISK!
THAT GIRL WHO LOOKS LIKE REIRA IS THE ONE WHO GOT ARRESTED WITH HIM?
HE DID SOMETHING CRAZY, JUST LIKE WE THOUGHT HE WOULD.
THAT PUNK REALLY BLEW IT.

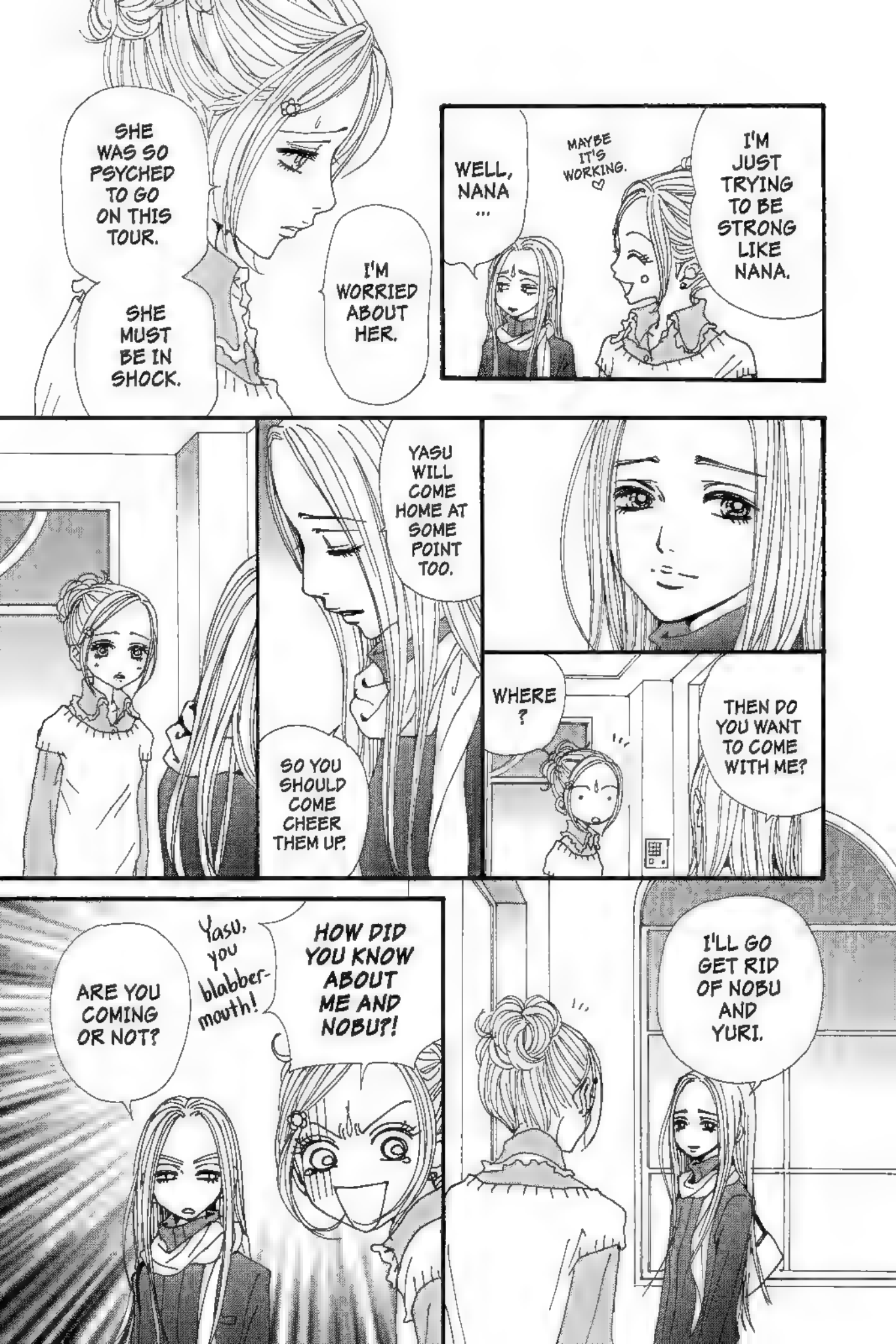
YOU ALWAYS DO THE SAME THING.
I'LL WRITE ABOUT SHIN'S CRAPPY UPBRINGING IN A DRAMATIC WAY AND MAKE THE PUBLIC FEEL SORRY FOR HIM!
BY THE WAY, DID YOU TRACK DOWN NANA'S MOTHER?
ARAI
I'LL WRITE A FOLLOW-UP ARTICLE.
NO, THERE'S NO WAY YOU CAN CLEAN UP THIS MESS.
SHE MIGHT BE DEAD BY NOW.
NOPE.

WHEN I GOT IN THE DORM ELEVATOR, I STARTED HAVING BREATHING PROBLEMS AGAIN.
WELL, BE NICE SO SHE DOESN'T HAUNT YOU.
ARAI
I'M DISAP-POINTED.
I THOUGHT SHE WAS TOUGHER THAN THAT.
ARAI

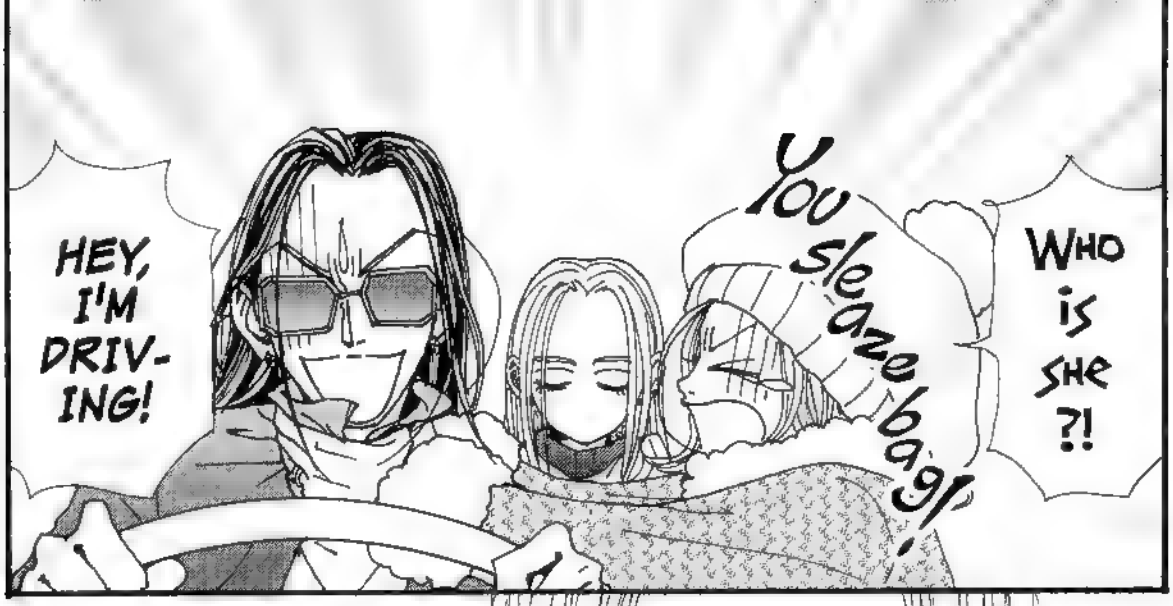
502
WHEN I REACHED THE FIFTH FLOOR...
...I REALIZED THAT I COULDN'T LIVE HERE ANYMORE.
WHY WOULD I WANT TO PLAY WITH SOMEONE LIKE THAT?
I CAN'T GO BACK TO REN'S PLACE.
WHERE CAN I GO?

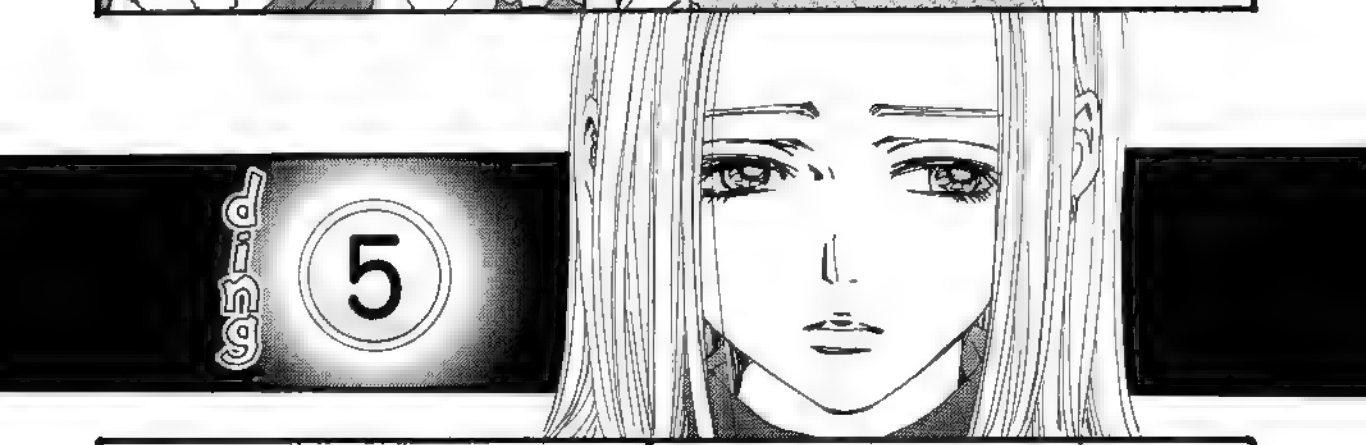
WHAT DO I DO NOW?
dip
EVERY-THING'S COME TO A GRINDING HALT.
IT'S RAIN-ING.
OH...

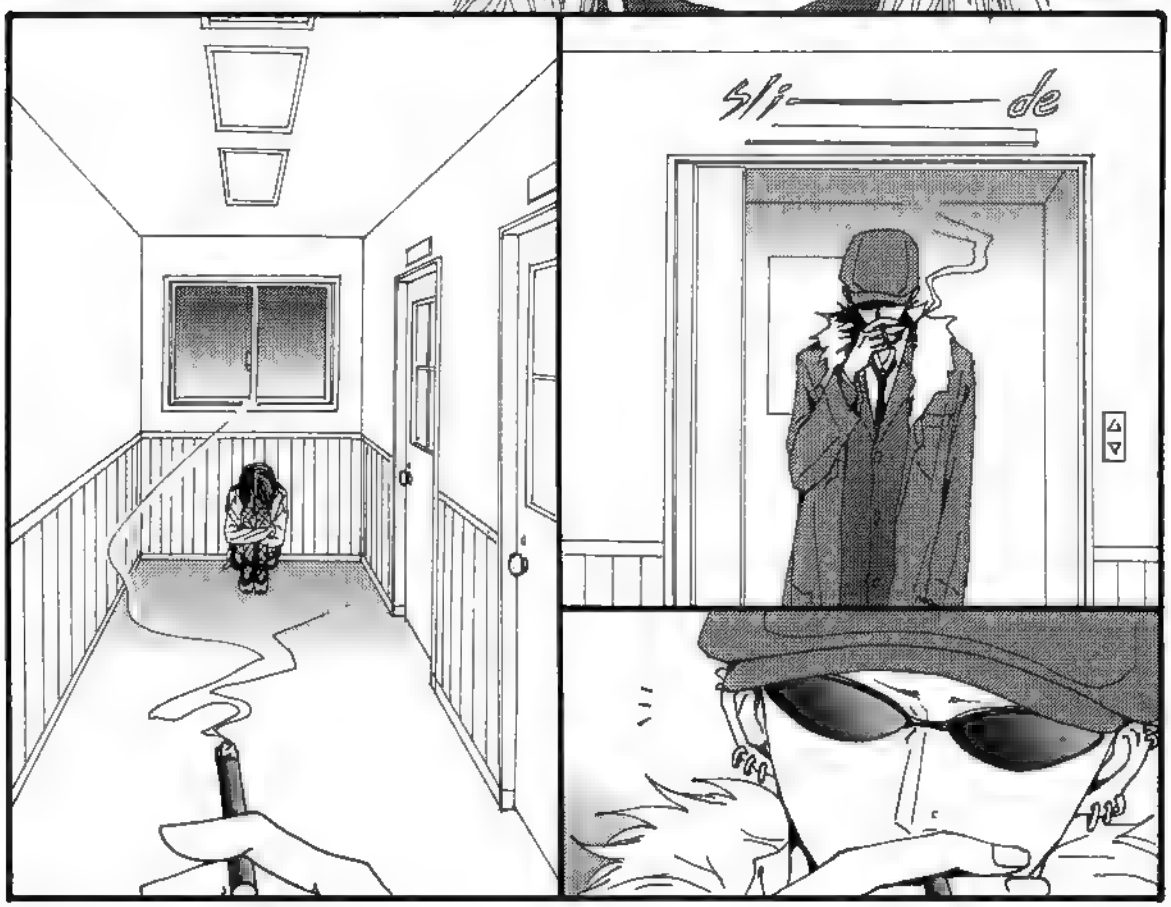

OH.
REALLY?
I DIDN'T NOTICE.
IT WAS SUNNY WHEN I CAME OVER.
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
DO YOU WANT TO BORROW AN UMBRELLA?
OR SHOULD I CALL YOU A CAB?
UM...
OR I COULD CALL YASU?
I'M GLAD YOU'RE FEELING GOOD ENOUGH TO BE FUNNY.
I CAN'T JUST KEEP CRYING.
I HAVE TO PULL MYSELF TOGETHER ...
...AS HIS MOMMY.
NANA, YOU'RE SO TOUGH.
I'M JEALOUS.
NO, I'M NOT!
I'M REALLY WEAK AND NAÏVE.
.....


SHE WAS SO PSYCHED TO GO ON THIS TOUR.
SHE MUST BE IN SHOCK.
I'M WORRIED ABOUT HER.
WELL, NANA ...
MAYBE IT'S WORKING.
I'M JUST TRYING TO BE STRONG LIKE NANA.
YASU WILL COME HOME AT SOME POINT TOO.
SO YOU SHOULD COME CHEER THEM UP.
WHERE ?
THEN DO YOU WANT TO COME WITH ME?
I'LL GO GET RID OF NOBU AND YURI.
HOW DID YOU KNOW ABOUT ME AND NOBU?!
Yasu, you blabber-mouth!
ARE YOU COMING OR NOT?

Vrooomm
SO WHY DO I HAVE TO DRIVE YOU GUYS OVER THERE?!
YEAH, I'M COMING!
WHAT IS IT, MISS?
HEY, MR. DRIVER ...
CAN YOU PICK ME UP TOO?
WHY SHOULD WE WASTE MONEY ON A CAB?
I GET IT.
OH.
WHO'S SHION?
WHAT ?
I DON'T KNOW HER!
WHADDYA MEAN?!
DO YOU KNOW A GIRL NAMED SHION?


HEY, I'M DRIV-ING!
You sleaze bag!
WHO IS SHE?!


pig
5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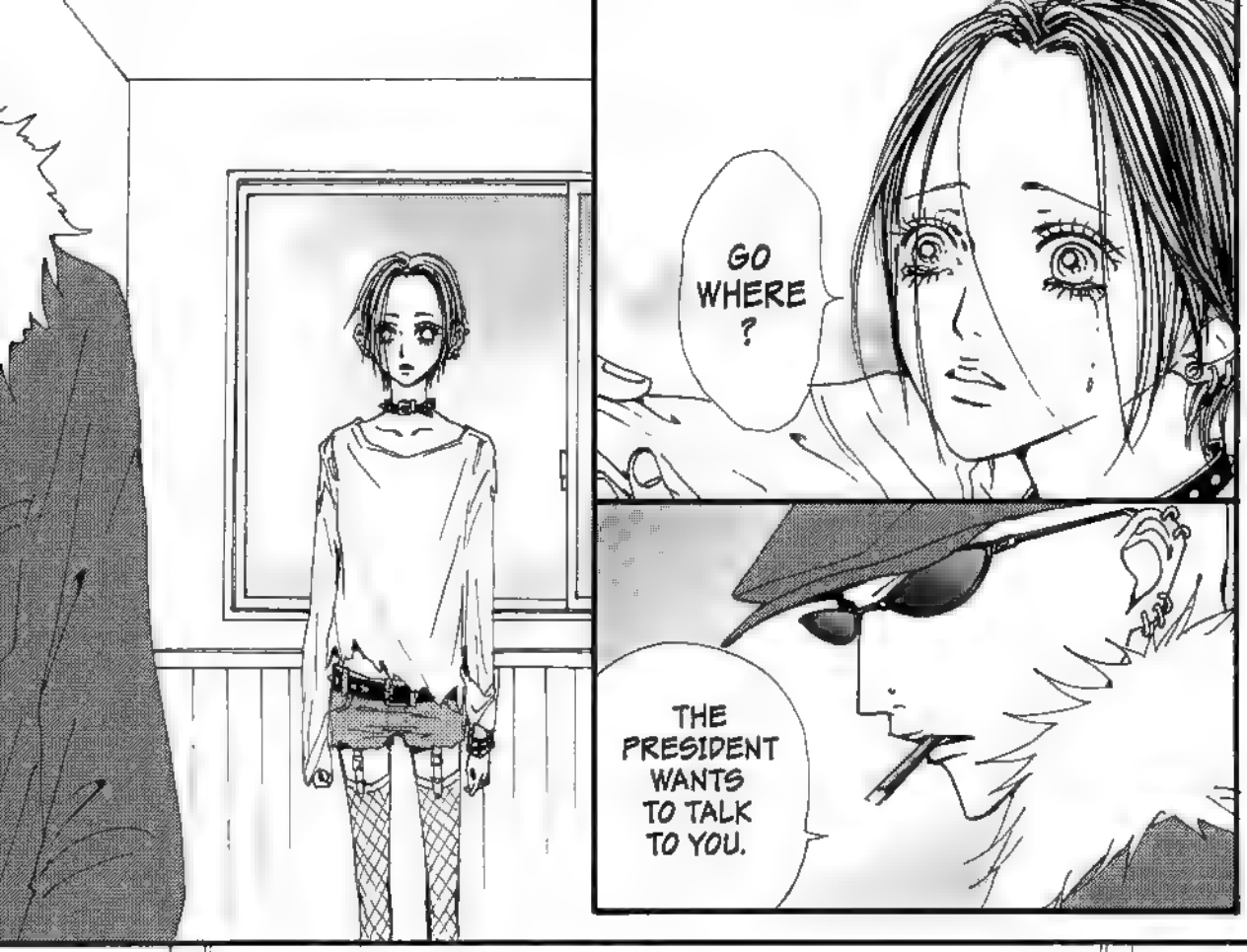
NANA
...
WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?
LET'S GO.



The *Shikai* Corporation

.....
YOU STILL WANT TO SING, DON'T YOU?
JUST TO TIDE THINGS OVER FOR NOW.
WE'LL PUT BLAST ON HOLD FOR A WHILE...
JUST THINK ABOUT YOURSELF RIGHT NOW.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME AND NOBU.

WELL, I WASN'T WORRYING ABOUT YOU GUYS...
I WANT TO SING.
BUT ON MY OWN?
NANA ...
YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER RIGHT NOW.
slam
...

TONIGHT ?!
THERE'S NO NEED TO RUSH ANY-THING.
OF COURSE, NANA.
THINK IT OVER TONIGHT.
THAT'S RUSHING THINGS TO ME.
HEY, HACHI...

I'M SO GLAD WE MET.

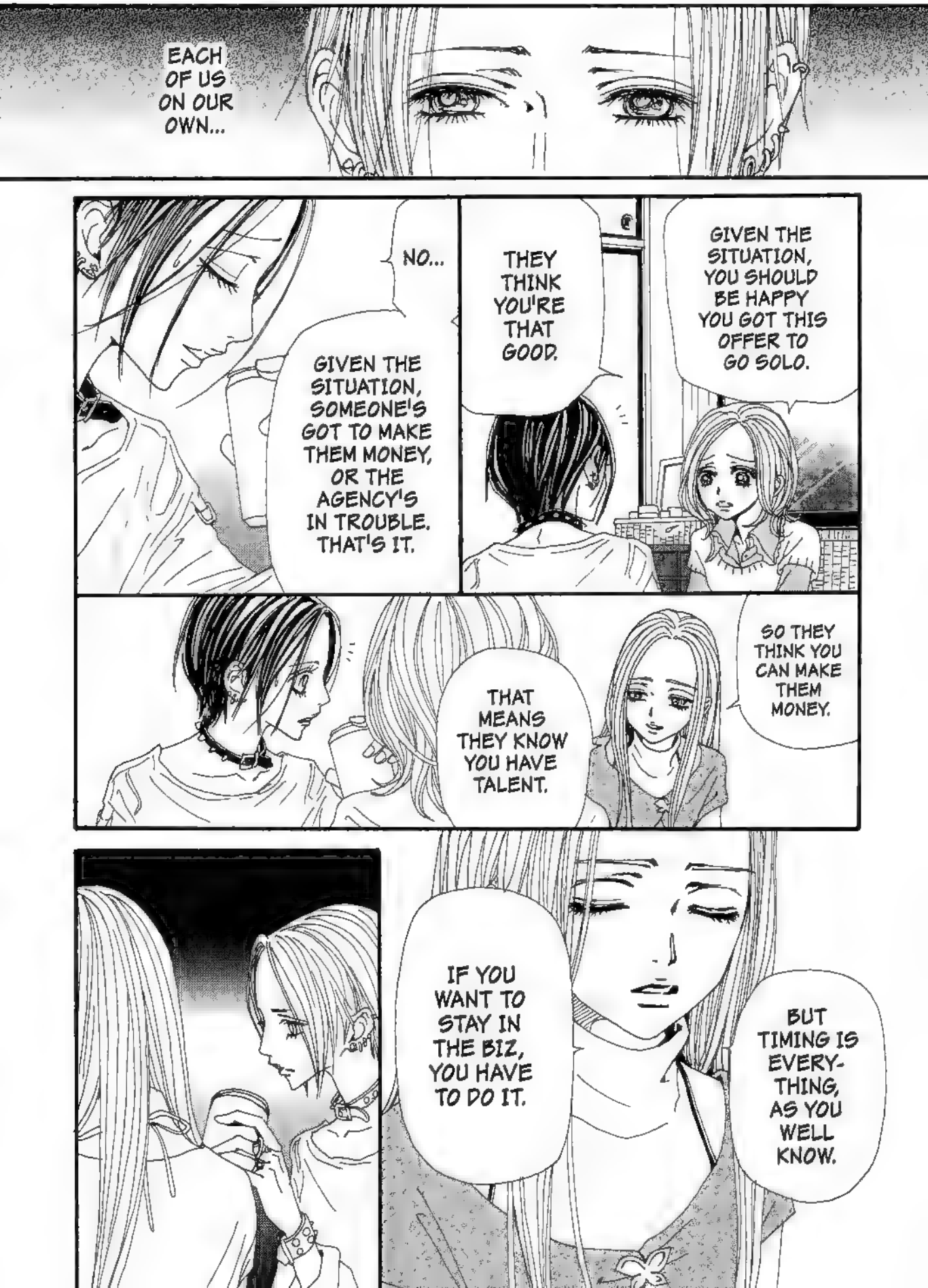
I WISH I COULD'VE TOLD YOU THAT.

...I GOT SO ANXIOUS I FELT FAINT
...BUT WHEN THEY WANTED TO MAKE ME A SOLO ARTIST...
I CAME TO TOKYO TO MAKE IT ON MY OWN...

NANA
[Chapter 69]

601

YOU'VE TOTALLY GOTTA DO IT!
WHY EVEN WAIT?
...YOU EACH NEED TO THINK ABOUT YOUR OWN FUTURE.
NOW THAT BLAST'S BEING PUT ON HIATUS...
DON'T TURN IT DOWN 'CAUSE YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT YOUR BANDMATES.
...


EACH OF US ON OUR OWN...
NO...
GIVEN THE SITUATION, SOMEONE'S GOT TO MAKE THEM MONEY, OR THE AGENCY'S IN TROUBLE. THAT'S IT.
THEY THINK YOU'RE THAT GOOD.
GIVEN THE SITUATION, YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY YOU GOT THIS OFFER TO GO SOLO.
THAT MEANS THEY KNOW YOU HAVE TALENT.
SO THEY THINK YOU CAN MAKE THEM MONEY.
IF YOU WANT TO STAY IN THE BIZ, YOU HAVE TO DO IT.
BUT TIMING IS EVERY-THING, AS YOU WELL KNOW.

BUT, I'M SO NERVOUS...
SO ANYWAY, WHERE'S YASU?
HE'S TOTALLY M.I.A.
YEAH...
I HAVE TO GET IT TOGETHER AND WORK HARD.
HACHI'S REALLY BEHIND IT TOO.
I THINK WE SHOULD LEAVE HIM ALONE FOR A WHILE.
HE'LL SHOW UP AT SOME POINT. HE SAID HE WOULD.
WHAT'S HE DOING?
HE SAID HE'LL SHOW UP LATER...
YEAH.
BUT...
I'LL GO GET HIM.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
YEAH...
.....

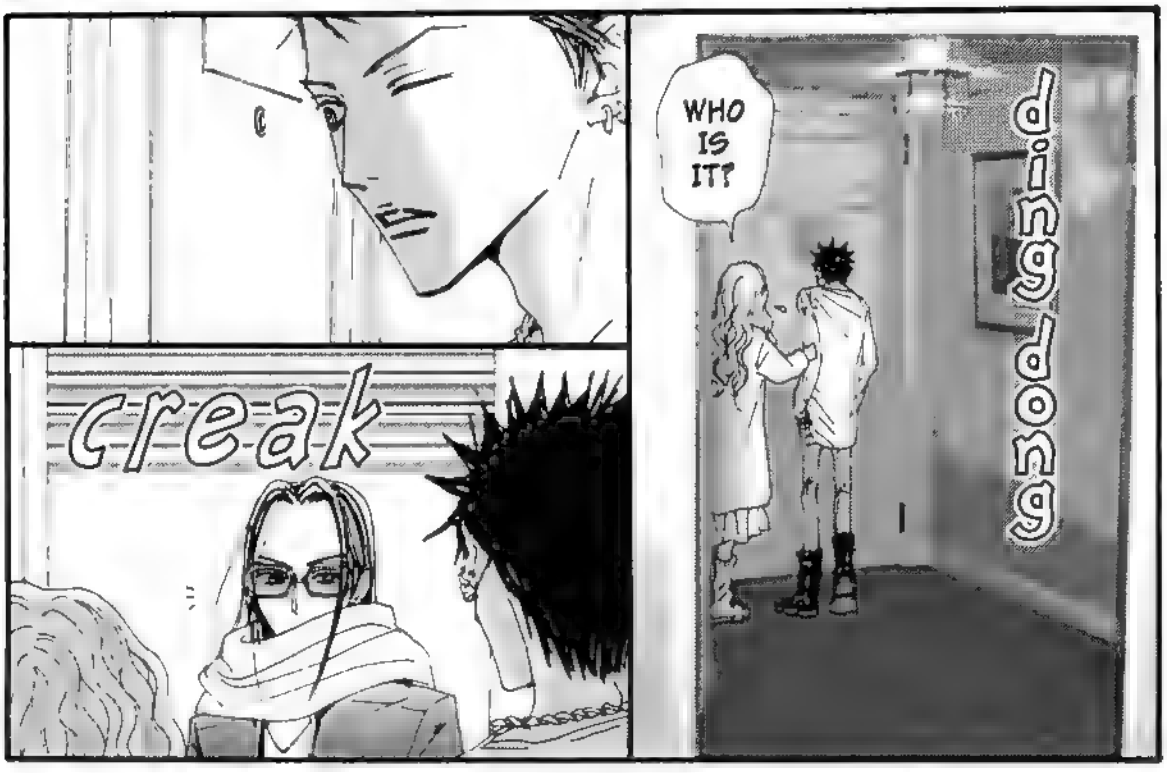
WELL, TOTALLY.
MAYBE...
HE'S THE ONE WHO STARTED THE BAND.
Blast
Cherry
I'M SURE IT'S AFFECTING YASU THE MOST.
I SUCK.
THE THOUGHT HADN'T EVEN OCCURRED TO ME.
AND ALL I COULD DO WAS THINK ABOUT MYSELF...

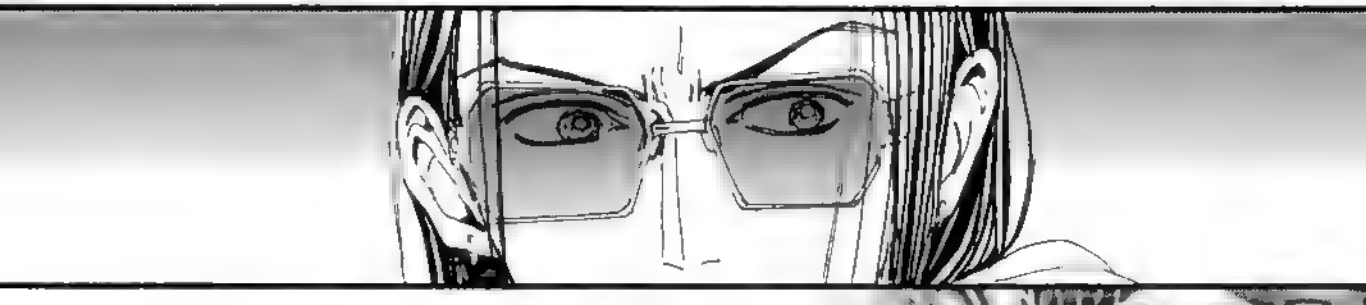
THIS IS NO TIME TO JUST CRY AND CLING TO YASU!
SSST
IT STOPPED RAINING.
YOU DROVE HERE.
IF YOU DRINK, YOU CAN'T DRIVE HOME.

BUT I CAN'T JUST LEAVE YOU HERE ALONE.
IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GONNA JUMP ON YOU OR ANYTHING.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME, WORRY ABOUT NANA!
SHE'S GOT TO BE SO BUMMED AFTER WHAT YOU SAID TO HER.
I KNOW SHE'S TOTALLY PISSED AT ME.
I QUIT BLAST. SHE DOESN'T WANT SOMEONE LIKE ME TO TELL HER OFF ABOUT HER BAND.
AND SHE HAS ISSUES WITH ME ANYWAY.
WELL, SHE'LL HATE YOU EVEN MORE IF SHE FINDS OUT YOU'RE HERE.
YOU HAVE TO GO HOME AND MAKE UP WITH HER.

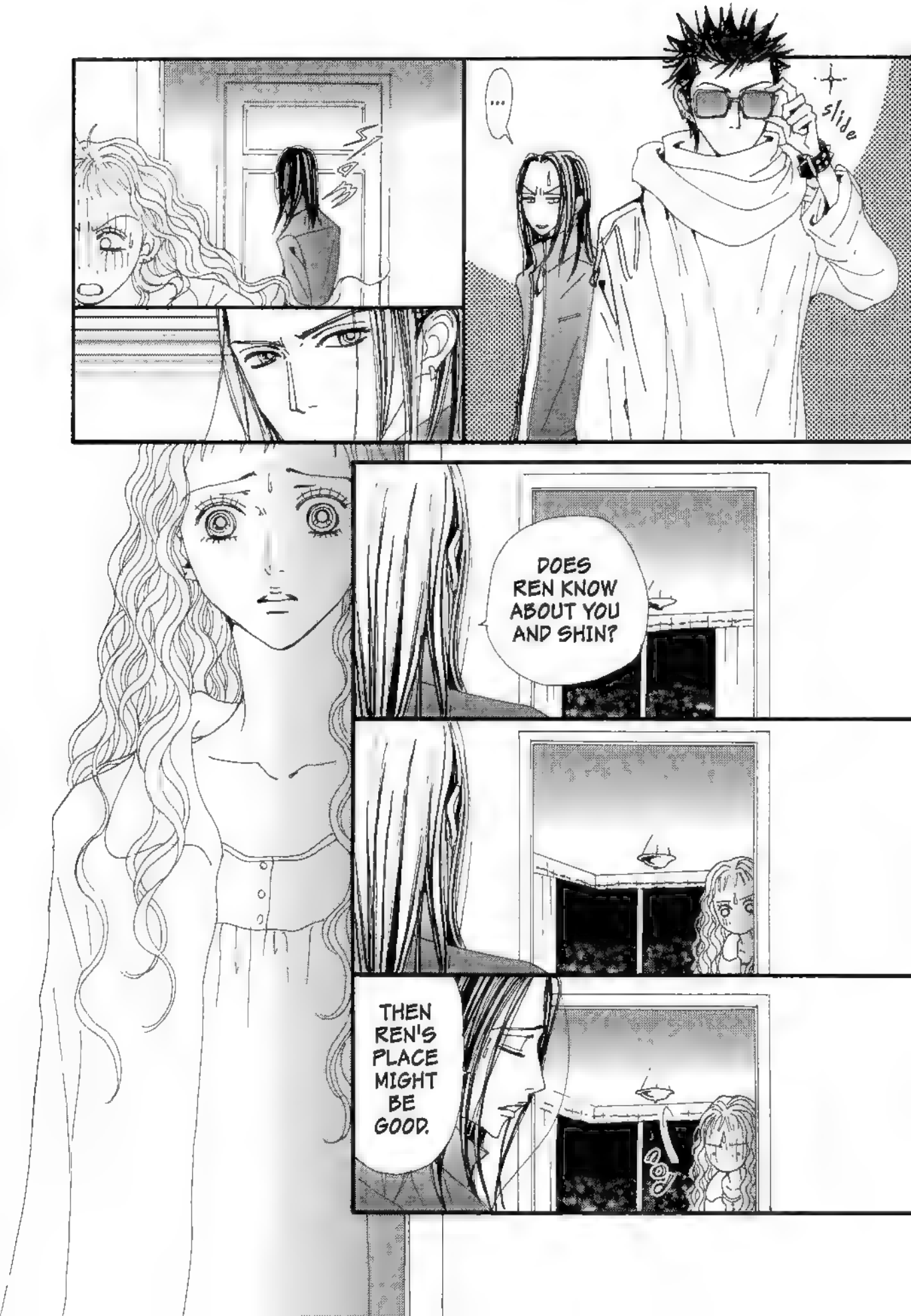
I DON'T WANT YOU TO WRITE SONGS FOR ANYONE ELSE BUT ME!
I'M SICK OF CATERING TO HER...

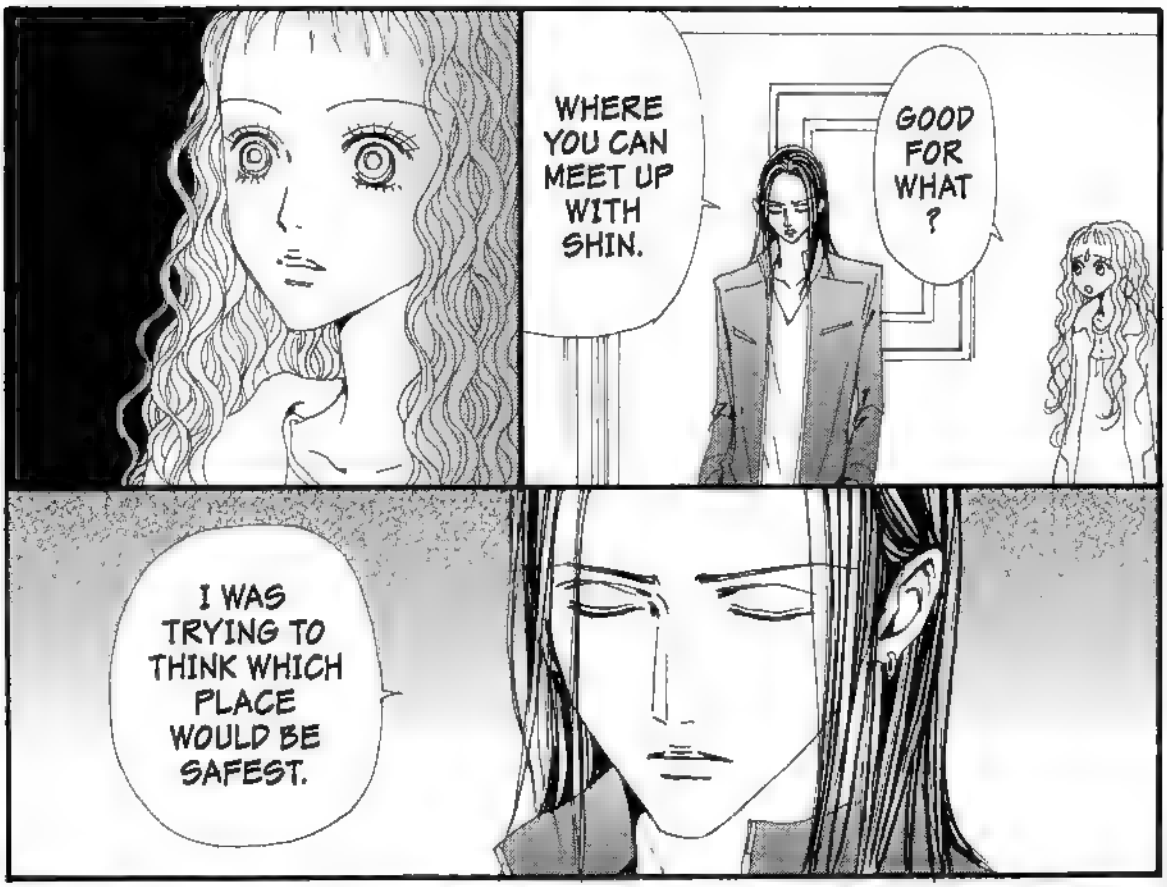
tonk
ding dong

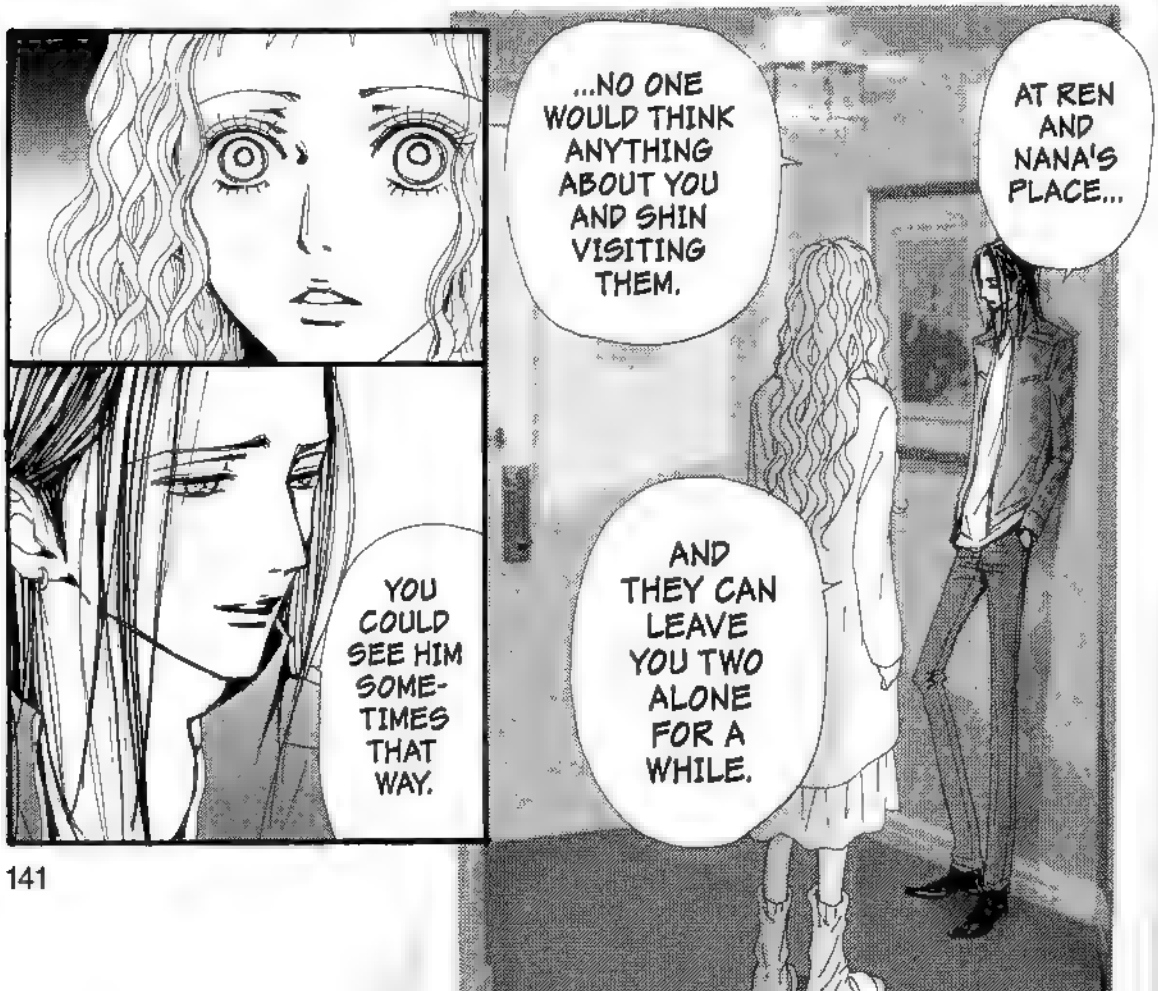

creak
WHO IS IT?
ding dong

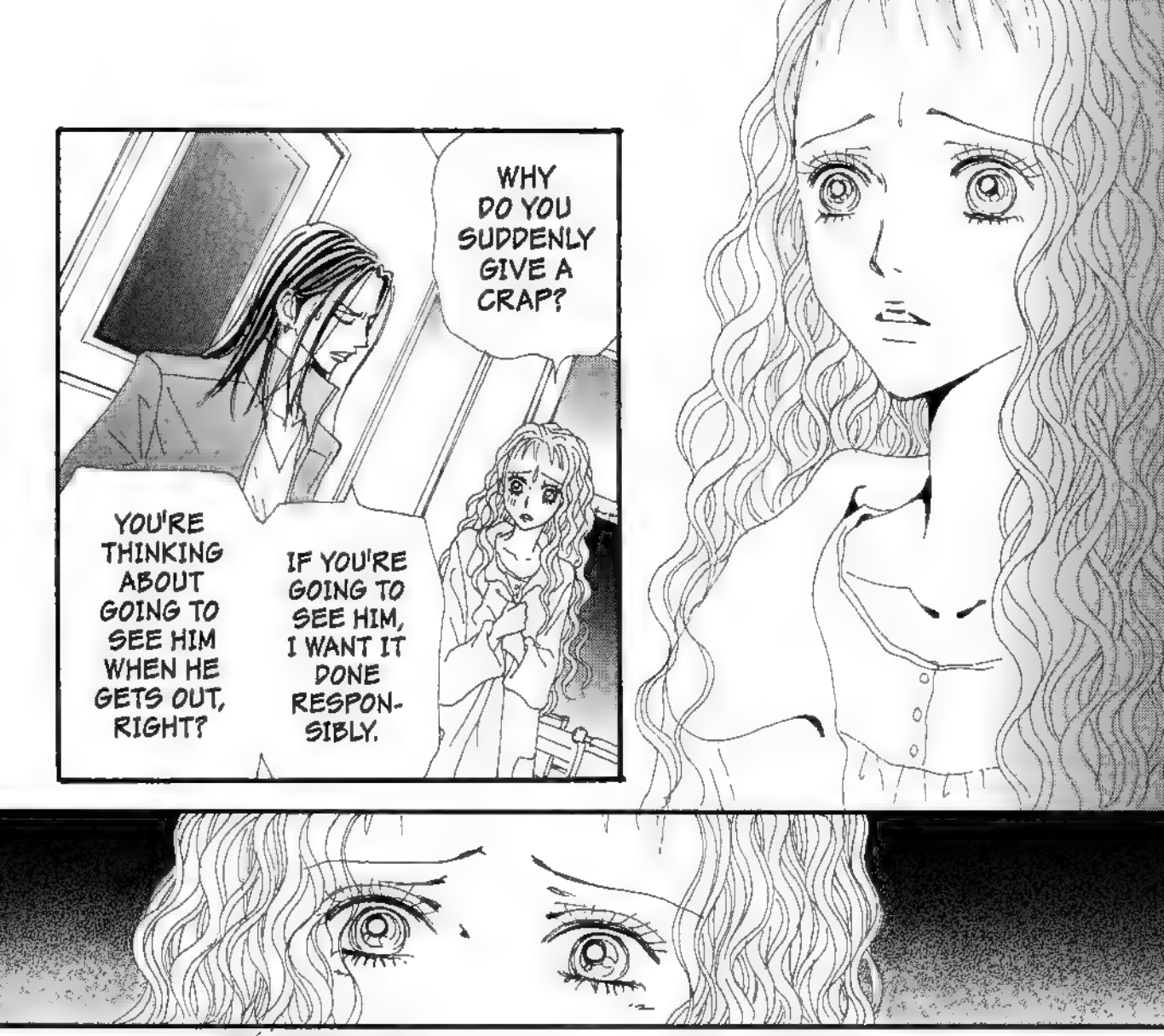


...SO TAKE YOUR TIME. ♡
I'LL BE DOWN IN THE LOUNGE GETTING DRUNK...
.....


...
slide
DOES REN KNOW ABOUT YOU AND SHIN?
THEN REN'S PLACE MIGHT BE GOOD.


WHERE YOU CAN MEET UP WITH SHIN.
GOOD FOR WHAT?
I WAS TRYING TO THINK WHICH PLACE WOULD BE SAFEST.


AT REN AND NANA'S PLACE...
...NO ONE WOULD THINK ANYTHING ABOUT YOU AND SHIN VISITING THEM.
AND THEY CAN LEAVE YOU TWO ALONE FOR A WHILE.
YOU COULD SEE HIM SOME-TIMES THAT WAY.


WHY DO YOU SUDDENLY GIVE A CRAP?
IF YOU'RE GOING TO SEE HIM, I WANT IT DONE RESPONSIBLY.
YOU'RE THINKING ABOUT GOING TO SEE HIM WHEN HE GETS OUT, RIGHT?

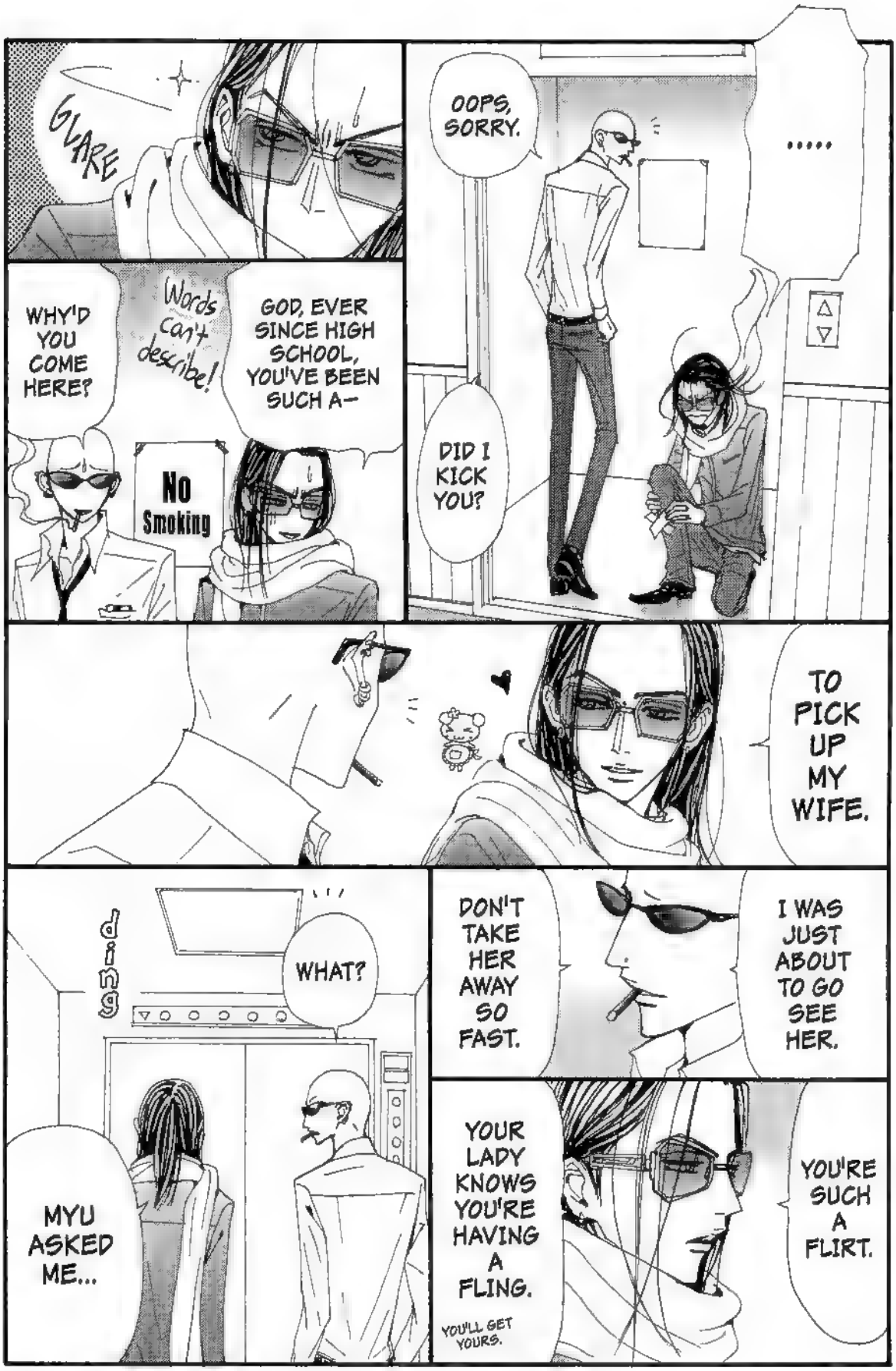
YOU'RE A SELFISH PERSON.

I DROVE YOU TO IT. I DROVE SHIN INTO IT.
IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.
BUT I DIDN'T MEAN TO TAKE AWAY...
...YOUR HAPPI-NESS.

I DIDN'T START TRAPNEST TO DO THAT TO YOU GUYS.

The news is up next...
The popular band Black—
click
tap
scoot

slide
TAKUMI ?
I'M...
KICK
...REALLY SORRY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED ...

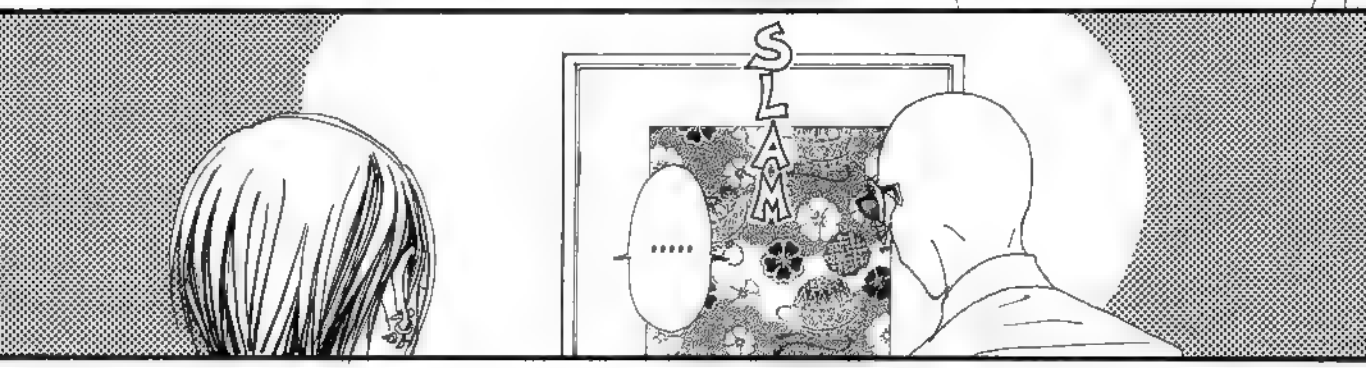

GLARE
WHY'D YOU COME HERE?
Words can't describe!
GOD, EVER SINCE HIGH SCHOOL, YOU'VE BEEN SUCH A—
No Smoking
OOPS, SORRY.
.....
DID I KICK YOU?
TO PICK UP MY WIFE.
ding
WHAT?
MYU ASKED ME...
DON'T TAKE HER AWAY SO FAST.
I WAS JUST ABOUT TO GO SEE HER.
YOUR LADY KNOWS YOU'RE HAVING A FLING.
YOU'LL GET YOURS.
YOU'RE SUCH A FLIRT.

"DO YOU KNOW A GIRL NAMED SHION?"
AREN'T YOU OVER HER?
YOU'RE STILL SEEING SHION?
WHAT DID YOU TELL HER?
I PANICKED AND SAID I DIDN'T KNOW HER. THEN NANA GOT ALL WEIRD ON ME.
WHY'D I HAVE TO PANIC?
.....
knock knock
IS THAT YASU?

WHY, HELLO! ♡
NO, I DON'T WANNA GO YET!
THEN STAY HERE FOREVER!
WHAT'D YOU COME HERE FOR?!
YOU TOLD ME TO COME PICK YOU UP.
WHEN THINGS SETTLE DOWN, I'LL COME SEE YOU.
HE CAME ALL THE WAY HERE. YOU CAN GO HOME.

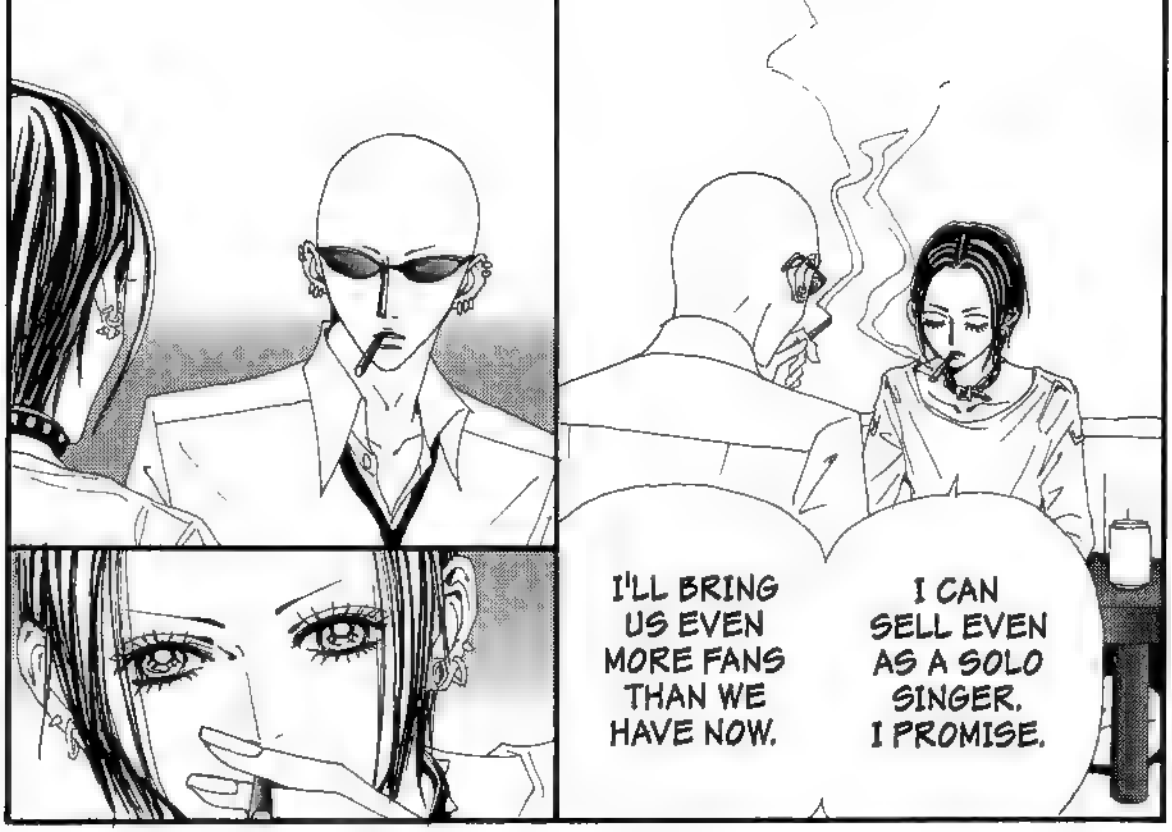
NANA ?
YOU WANNA GO HOME TOO?
WE CAN DRIVE YOU HOME.
NO...
YASU AND I STILL NEED TO TALK.
I'LL CALL YOU LATER.
HANG IN THERE.

I'LL GO WALK THEM OUT.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, WE NEED TO TALK?
HUH?


SLAM
.....

I THOUGHT YOU HATED MIU.
MYU'S COOL AND CONSIDERATE. SHE'S A MATURE WOMAN.
SHE'S TOO GOOD FOR YOU.

SO WHAT DO YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
SO NOW I HAVE TO BE FRIENDS WITH HER?
OH...
WELL, I'M JUST HAPPY IF YOU GUYS CAN BE FRIENDS...
NO, I DON'T HATE HER...
MAYBE JUST JEAL-OUS?
flick
OH, THAT...
IT'S FOR THE BEST.
YEAH, DO IT.
I'M GOING SOLO.
I MADE UP MY MIND.
blast


I'LL BRING US EVEN MORE FANS THAN WE HAVE NOW.
I CAN SELL EVEN AS A SOLO SINGER. I PROMISE.

I WON'T LET BLAST GO BUST.
SO DON'T WORRY.

THANKS.

...EVER DONE ANYTHING FOR YASU?
HAVE I...
I NEVER THOUGHT A "THANKS" WOULD MAKE ME SO HAPPY.

I TOLD YOU NOT TO CRY IN FRONT OF ME ANYMORE.
I WAS ALWAYS SO DEMANDING WITH HIM. THAT'S WHY I WOULD GET IRRITATED.
I DEPENDED ON YASU'S GENEROSITY.

BUT FROM NOW ON...

...AND FOR HACHI, MY GREATEST SUPPORT...
...NOT JUST FOR MYSELF, BUT FOR YASU...
...I'LL SING...
...AND FOR MY COMRADES.
...I WON'T FEEL LONELY.
THEN EVEN WHEN I SING ALONE...

I'LL SURVIVE AND SUCCEED.
I'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

di 2 ng

BLACK STONES
stomp stomp stomp
slide
stomp

I GUESS SHE'S GETTING MORE INDEPEN-DENT.
YEAH.
YASU, YOU ASKED THE PRESIDENT TO MAKE NANA A SOLO ARTIST.
WELL, EVEN IF I HADN'T, IT WOULD'VE HAPPENED ANYWAY.
SHE WENT HOME.
WHERE'S NANA?
SO SHE'S GOING TO GO SOLO?
BUT WHY'D YOU ASK TAKUMI INSTEAD OF ME?
EVEN WITH SHION.
YOU SEE THROUGH EVERY-THING.

I WAS TEST-ING YOU.
WELL, IF YOU'RE SUSPICIOUS, I GUESS IT'S HARD TO ASK ME.
ding
I WANTED TO SEE HOW YOU'D REACT.
I KNEW TAKUMI'D TELL YOU.

...SO IT MEANS THERE'S NOTHING GOING ON WITH YOU AND HER NOW.
YOU BROUGHT IT UP SO HONESTLY...

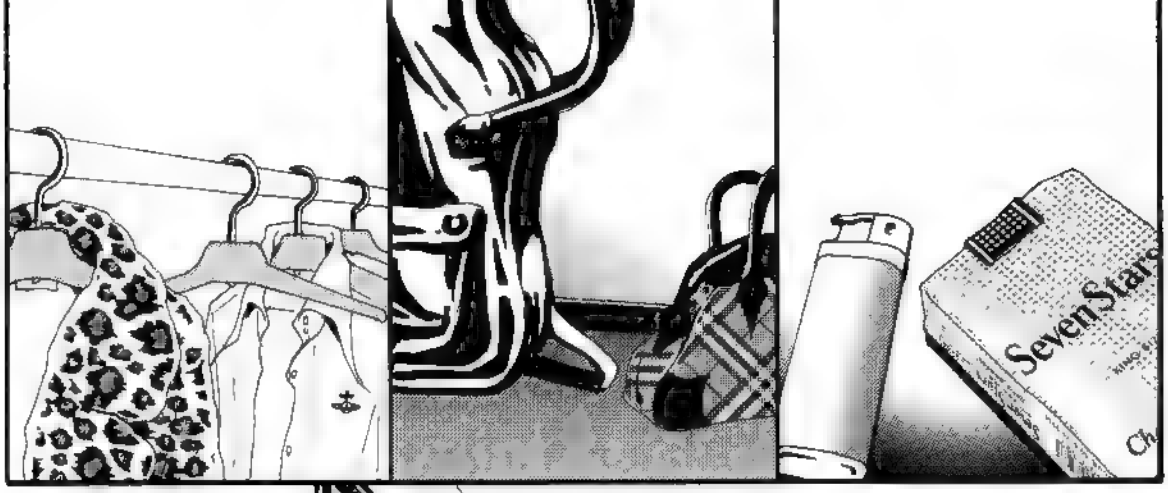
BUT YOU STILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH HER.
IT WAS BEFORE I STARTED GOING OUT WITH YOU.
I DON'T MESS AROUND WHEN I'M GOING OUT WITH SOMEONE. THAT'S MY POLICY.
No matter what you say your policy is!
YASU, YOU—
You suck.
SO YOU TWO REALLY WERE TOGETHER.
YOU REALLY DO SEE THROUGH EVERY-THING.
DON'T WORRY.
THE FAN CLUB'S ON HIATUS TOO. I'LL PROBABLY NEVER SEE HER AGAIN.
NO, YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLO-GIZE.
IF YOU'VE GOT SOMETHING TO SAY, SAY IT.
SORRY...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO ACCUSE YOU.

clink
GOOD NIGHT.
ALL RIGHT.
I'LL HEAR YOU OUT TOMOR-ROW.
BUT HONESTLY, I'M BEAT. I'M GOING TO BED.
WHY'RE YOU SLEEPING HERE?!
SIGH
COME ON...
IT'S MORE RELAX-ING HERE.
THEN GO CHANGE!
AND BRUSH YOUR TEETH AND WASH YOUR FACE!
YOU'RE SUCH A SLOB!
...
SORRY...

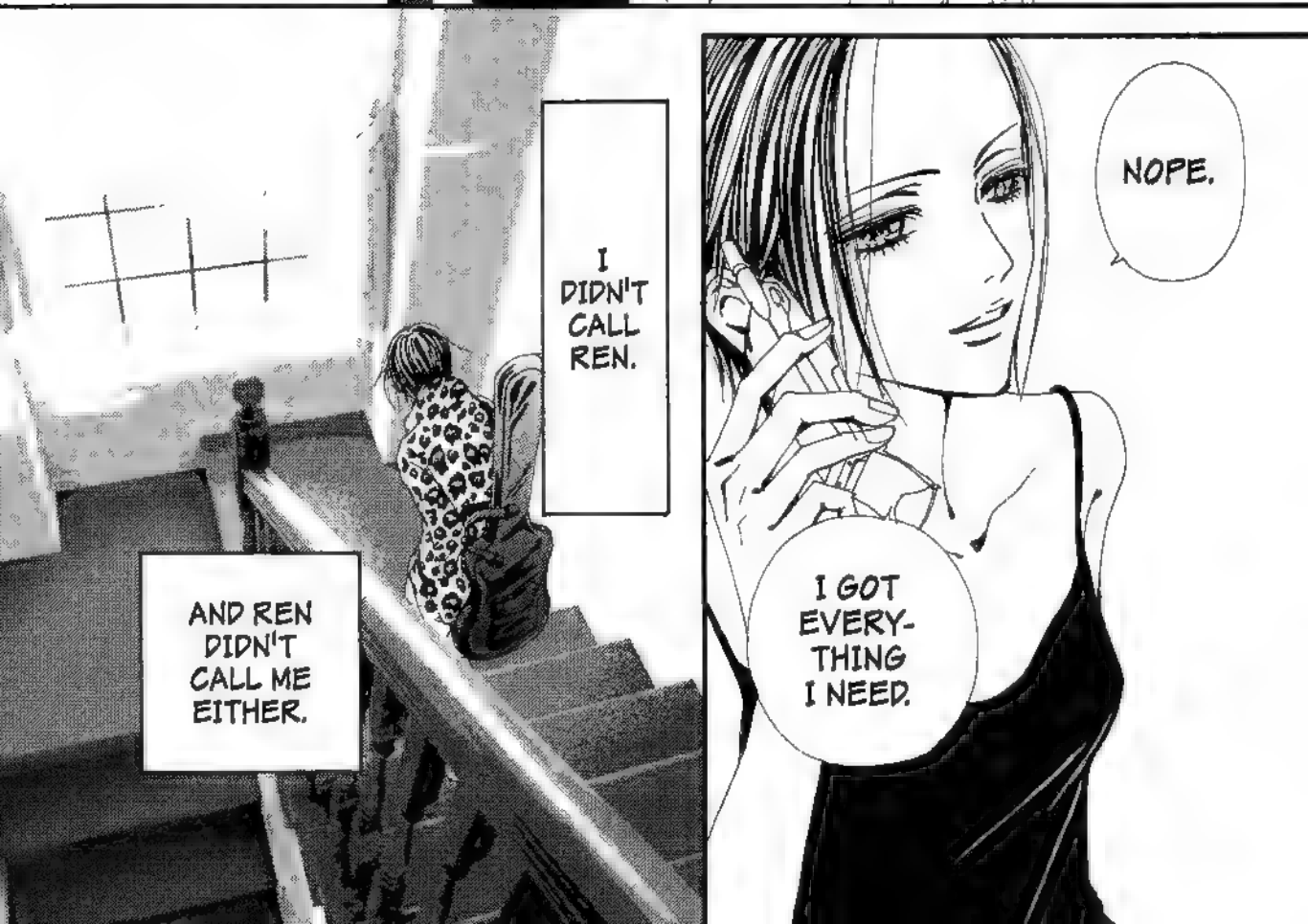
NOW WHAT DO I DO?
IF I STICK AROUND, WILL I HAVE TO WORK?
SOMEHOW, THINGS ARE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT.
YOU CAN WRITE SONGS, NOBU.
THINGS WILL BE ALL RIGHT.

...I DIDN'T FEEL LIKE TALKING TO REN...
THAT NIGHT

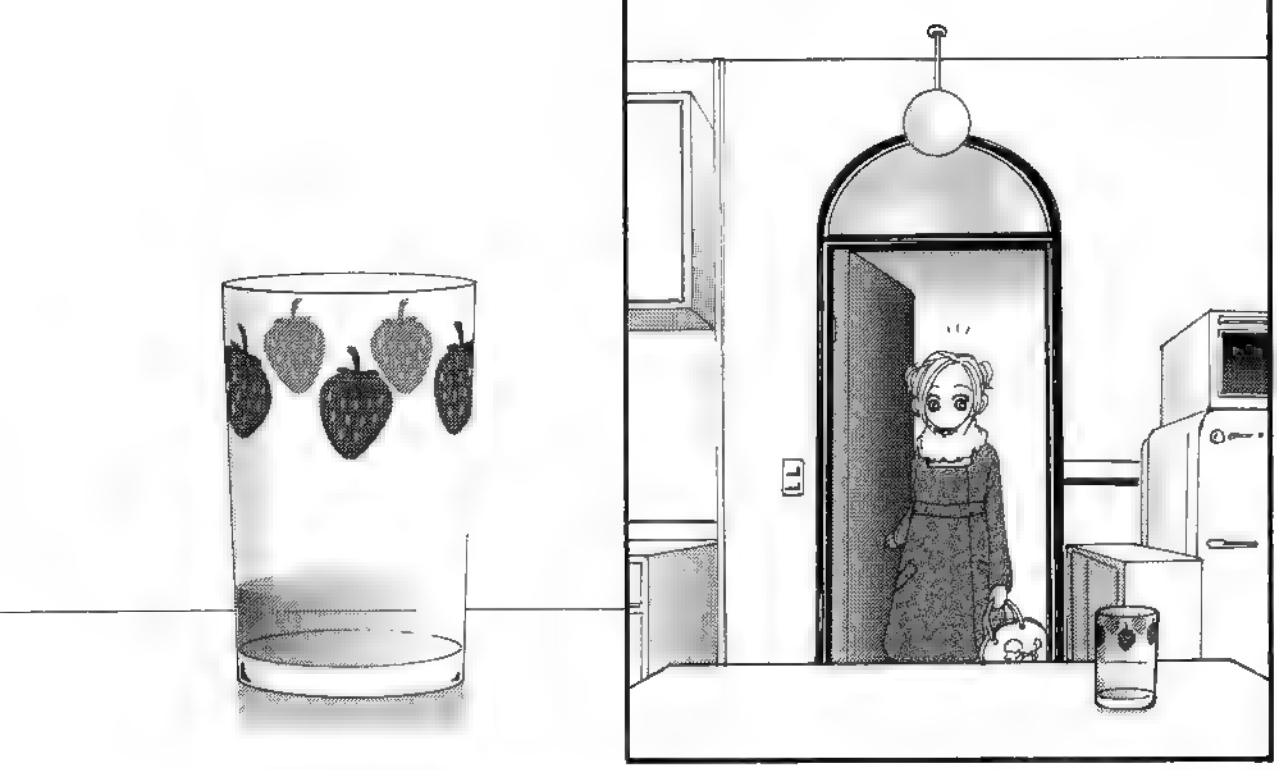
ri
n
g
GOOD MORN-ING—
vroom
MR. HIDAKA TOLD ME YOU WENT BACK TO APARTMENT 707.
WE'RE COMING TO PICK YOU UP. DO YOU NEED ANYTHING?


Seven Stars

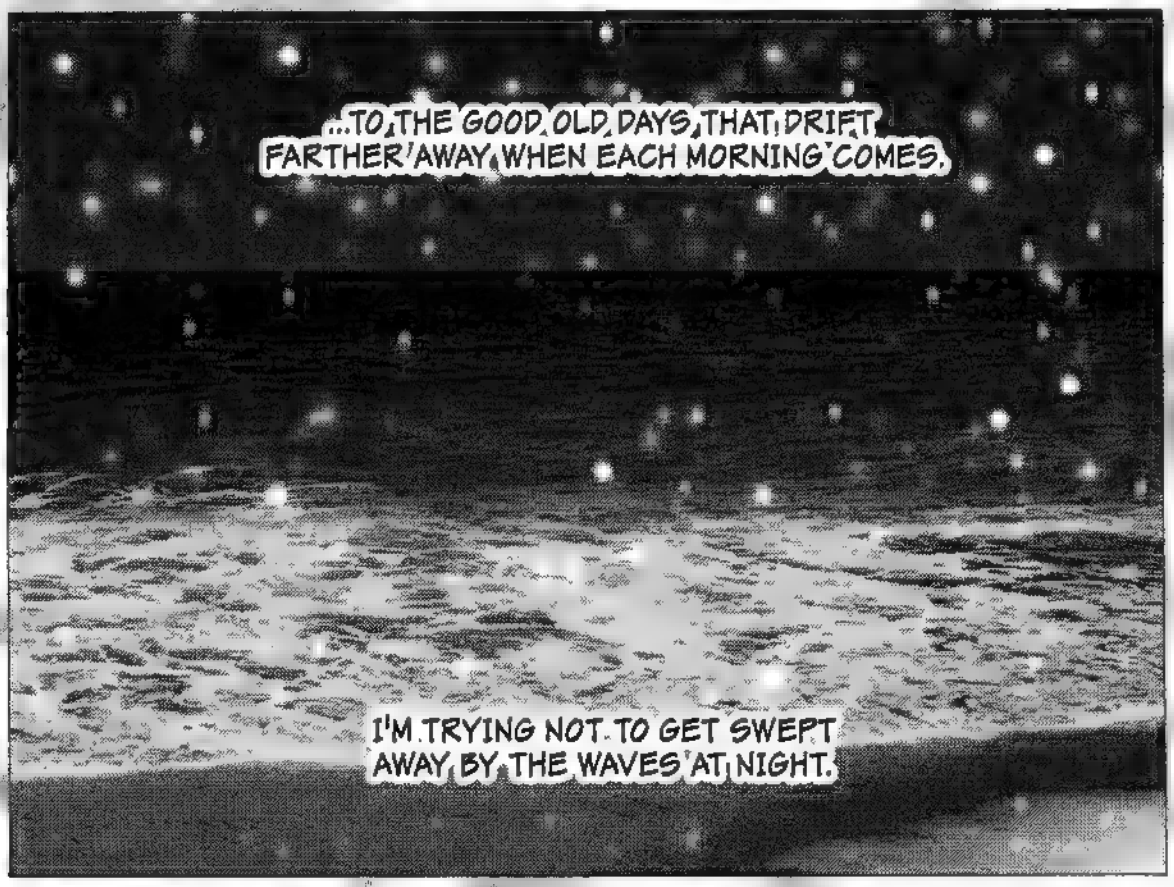
...JUST LIKE WHEN I FIRST MOVED TO TOKYO.
...WAS MY GUITAR, MY SMOKES, AND A FEW CLOTHES ...
IN THE APART-MENT...


AND REN DIDN'T CALL ME EITHER.
I DIDN'T CALL REN.
I GOT EVERY-THING I NEED.
NOPE.

...'CAUSE I SLEPT HOLDING MY DREAMS CLOSE.
BUT I DIDN'T FEEL LONELY...
HEY, HACHI...



I FALL ASLEEP EVERY NIGHT HOLDING TIGHT...



☆ INDEFINITELY!! WE'LL TRY TO RE-OPEN IN VOL. 19!

NANA×CA4LA

Collaboration

Be one of 77 readers to win an original hunting cap!

Top hat brand CA4LA has collaborated with NANA on a hunting cap. Made of wool for the fall/winter season in a brown check design that goes with your clothes! If you bought this tankobon, you can enter too. Just check the paper sash on the dustcover. ♡ The deadline's October 10, 2007 (must be postmarked by this date).

The Family Times
Sept. 14, 2007

Official Website NANA online

Check the site for the latest info!!

http://www.s-nana.com/

Shueisha Shopping Plaza

mekke!

http://mekke.shueisha.co.jp

You can't buy the hunting cap, but you can buy the belt.

Shueisha Original October Issue

Kin no Tiara

Contains "Usubeni no Arashi"

Special issue on sale to commemorate the Kin no Tiara Grand Prize, a newcomer grand prix for shojo and josei manga. Commemorative works by all the judges are included! Also including a discussion between Satoru Makimura Sensei and Ai Yazawa! ♡ ¥600 (tax incl.)

"Have You Seen Me?"

Misato Uehara (alias)

Nobuo Terashima

Nana Osaki

Nana Komatsu

Mobile NANA News!

Second Mobile Game!

Check out the schedule updates!

Every Week:

Monday through Friday ☆ Standby display illustrations
Monday ☆ Flash accessories
Tuesday ☆ Decome Template
Wednesday ☆ NANA mail
Thursday ☆ Photo frames
Friday ☆ NANA quiz

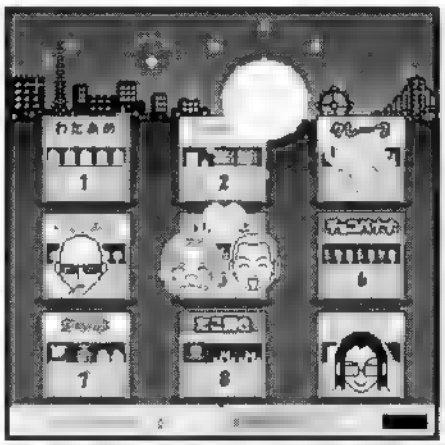
Every Month:

The 1st ☆ Ai Yazawa Q & A, Today's Words of Wisdom
The 1st & 15th ☆ Calendars
The 7th ☆ Are you compatible?
The 7th & 8th ☆ Nana & Hachi Day limited standby display illustrations
The 26th ☆ The ultimate mumbling, Email end/receive illustrations, Incoming/outgoing call illustrations

Time-limited features available periodically.♥
New features continuously appear!
We also accept requests.

We got a huge response for the first game, "Yasu's Hat Trick." The second game features Hachi and tests your memory! Hachi's going to the fireworks festival with Blast and Ginpei. Help her find her friends at the food stalls! If you find everyone in the order they appear, fireworks will light up the sky. Use your power to ignite the night sky.☆

■ Game still in development, so screenshot is not final version
■ Packet communication fees not included.



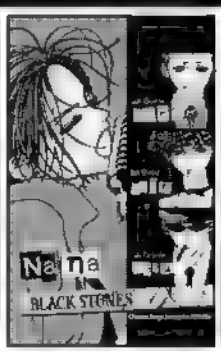
✻ Available soon! ✻
"Hachi's Face-to-Face at the Fireworks Festival!"

Pay-per-item Site

NANA Premium

for i-mode and EZweb! Hugely popular!

✻ Depending on your cell phone what you can customize will differ
✻ "Dress-up Tool" and "Keitai Arrange" are basically the same thing, with different names



No. 1 Seller! The Blast version!

YOU CAN NANA-CUSTOMIZE YOUR ENTIRE CELL PHONE! ♥

Available in six versions – Nana, Hachi, Nobu, Yasu, Blast and Trapnest. Flash standbys, main menu, email menu, incoming/outgoing calls, email send/receive, battery/reception meters, change them all at once! You can buy these items even if you're not a member of the Mobile *NANA* site.

i-mode version
EZweb version
Dress-up Tool
Keitai Arrange
Price ¥315 each (tax incl.) updated the 26th of every month

How to Access the Site! Download as many standbys as you want and play as much as you want, for ¥315 a month! (tax incl.)

***** [Use the following URL from any carrier] **http://m.s-nana.com/** *****

The Scoop!!

NANA

Seeking road crew! No experience necessary!

On Sale Now

You're a girl who followed your dreams to Tokyo.

Then one day, you meet Nana and the gang. You know just how to work it, and your dream of touring with the band comes true.

Brush up on your work and creative skills. Then try to upgrade in time for the band's concert three months later doing things like hair and makeup or taking photographs!

Make your dreams come true in the NANA world! A showbiz success story.

Land your dream job!

Don't forget to make friends with everyone!

Get tight with Nana and the gang!

For more details, check out:
http://www.konami.jp/NANA
Use the QR code to access the site from your cell phone.

NANA
ナナ
SEEKING ROAD CREW!
NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

ON SALE NOW!

- For Nintendo DS.
- Genre: Showbiz Special Simulation
- Suggested Retail Price. ¥4980 (¥5229 with tax)

© Yazawa Manga Seisakusho/Shueisha, VAP, Madhouse, NTV © 2007 Konami Digital Entertainment Co., Ltd
NINTENDO DS is a registered trademark of Nintendo Co., Ltd

Movie and Anime DVDs out now!

Special Edition and Standard Edition available.
Check out the extras and buy your fave.

★NANA2 Special Edition

2 discs, ¥6300 (tax incl.)
Special outer case
Gorgeous booklet included
〈109 minutes of extras〉

Trailers, promotional footage, TV commercials, tour diary, everything about Blast's legendary Shinjuku concert, the making of Trapnest's promo clip in Scotland, interview footage and premiere speeches, live footage (including previously unreleased material)

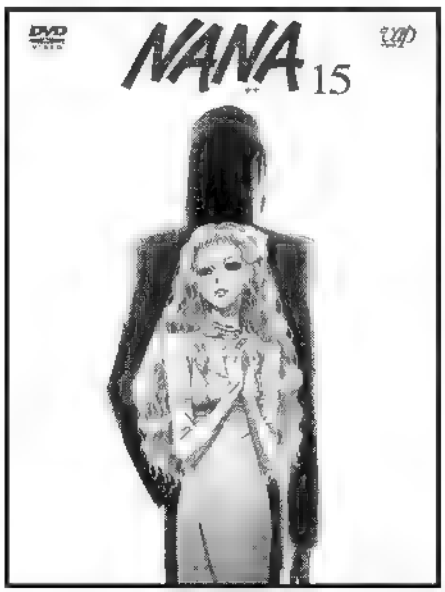
★NANA2 Standard Edition

¥3990 (tax incl.)
Comes in a tall yellow case
〈Extras〉
Trailers, promotional footage

Released by SEDIC International, Shueisha
Distributed by Toho

✻NANA2 Movie✻

✻Experience the excitement all over again!✻



☆ **Vol. 2-14**
3 chapters each + extras
Price: ¥3990 (tax incl.)

☆ **Vol. 1**
Chapter 1 + extras
Price: ¥1890 (tax incl.)

☆ **Vol. 7.8: Omnibus edition**
Junko's Place
Includes parts 1 to 3
Price: ¥708 (tax incl.)

Released/Distributed by VAP

Our high quality product got rave reviews from all viewers The anime is currently airing with huge popularity in Italy, France, Belgium, Taiwan, Korea, and Spain. Now if you wanna see them again, you can get the DVDs and watch them all in a row!

✻NANA Anime✻

✻World Famous!✻

The latest volume **Vol. 15 goes on sale September 27th (Thursday)!**

☆All products listed in our newsletter actually exist. Buy freely without being scared off!

I DON'T THINK YOU REALLY NEED TO HEAR...
...THE STORY ABOUT MY HOMETOWN...
...BUT SINCE IT'S MY TURN,
I'LL TALK ABOUT IT.
YOU READY TO HEAR IT?

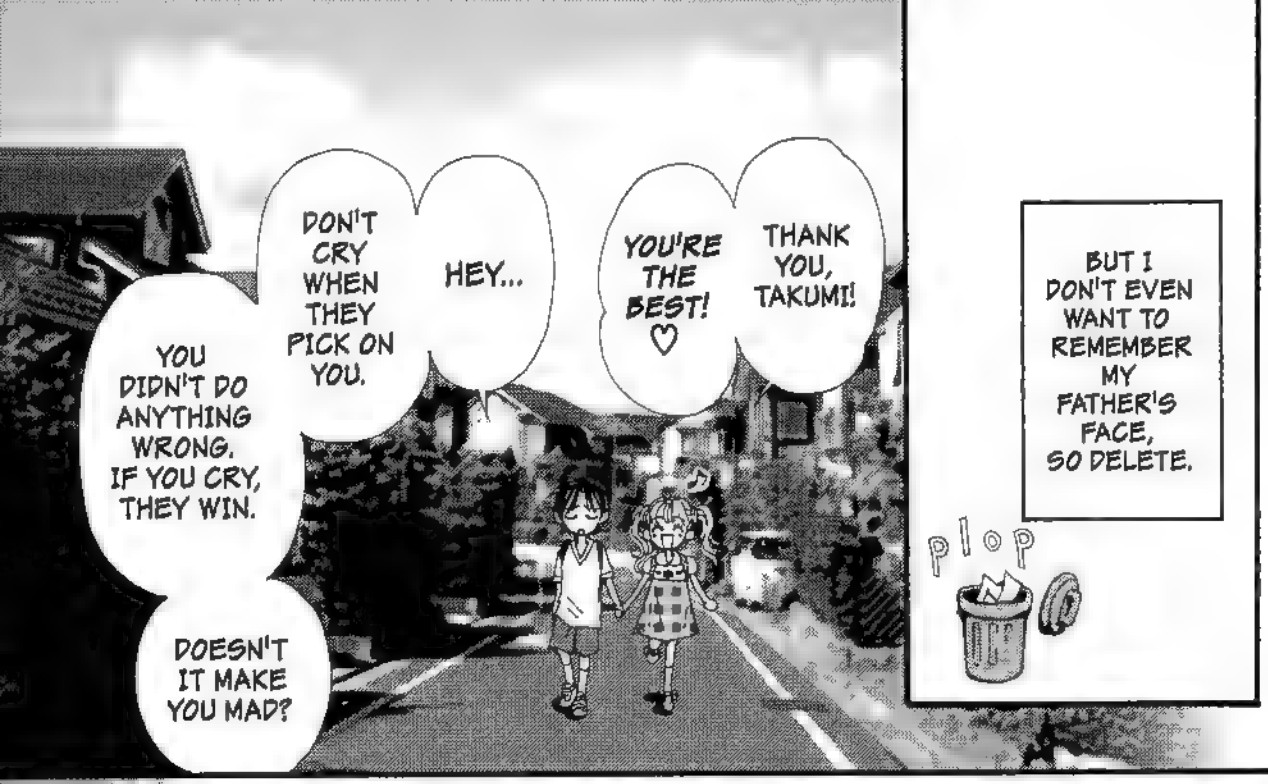
[TAKUMI]
―タクミ―
[NANA Bonus Story]

I THOUGHT HER WAY OF TALKING WAS A LOT LIKE SINGING.

OH, HOW CUTE.
.....
COME ON, SAY HELLO.
I'M MEGUMI ICHI-NOSE.
I'LL BE IN SIXTH GRADE IN APRIL.
THIS IS MY LITTLE BROTHER, TAKUMI. HE'S IN THIRD GRADE.
WHAT GRADE ARE YOU IN?
...
SHE'LL BE STARTING SECOND GRADE.
SHE DOESN'T SPEAK JAPANESE VERY WELL 'CAUSE WE LIVED IN THE U.S. SINCE SHE WAS BORN.
SORRY.
OH...
THAT'S WHY SHE TALKS SO WEIRD.
SHE'S LIKE A TALKING FRENCH DOLL.
WELL, AN AMERICAN DOLL.

I HAVEN'T SEEN ANYONE ELSE HER AGE IN THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD.
MAYBE YOU CAN BE FRIENDS WITH HER, TAKUMI.
WHEN AN OBVIOUSLY FOREIGN-LOOKING GIRL MOVED INTO THE HOUSE ACROSS THE STREET...
...IN A NEIGHBOR-HOOD OF IDENTICAL PRE-FAB HOUSES...
... EVERY-ONE STARTED TALKING.
HER AMERICAN HUSBAND GOT SICK AND DIED.
SHE'S SO YOUNG. POOR THING.
AND HER DAUGH-TER'S SO LITTLE.
BUT SHE SHOULD'VE AT LEAST TAUGHT HER DAUGHTER JAPANESE.
I KNOW, I KNOW...
THERE WAS NO SCHOOL FOR EX-PATS IN A COUNTRY TOWN LIKE OURS.
REIRA STOOD OUT AND WAS TAUNTED WITH THE USUAL RACIST COMMENTS.
GAIJIN!
SPEAK ENGLISH!

POW
TAKUMI ?
WHAT'RE YOU GUYS DOING?!
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, ICHINOSE ?!
HEY!
OW!
kick
Waa!
AND WITH SECOND GRADERS, EVEN!
WELL, NO MATTER WHAT THEY DID, NO FIGHTING ALLOWED!
I didn't do anything!
ASK THEM! THEY'RE PICKING ON REIRA!
AT HOME, I HAD A BIG MAN WHO'D HIT ME FOR NO REASON.
EVEN AS A KID, NOTHING MADE SENSE.


BUT I DON'T EVEN WANT TO REMEMBER MY FATHER'S FACE, SO DELETE.
plop
THANK YOU, TAKUMI!
YOU'RE THE BEST! ♡
HEY... DON'T CRY WHEN THEY PICK ON YOU.
YOU DIDN'T DO ANYTHING WRONG. IF YOU CRY, THEY WIN.
DOESN'T IT MAKE YOU MAD?

A LITTLE?
RIGHT.
GOOD JOB.
VERI GUDO!

DO YOU UNDER-STAND WHAT I'M SAYING?
"A LITTLE."
A WITTLE.

I WAS VERY INTERESTED IN LEARNING NEW STUFF, SO I ALWAYS PLAYED WITH REIRA.
WE SPENT OUR CHILDHOOD TEACHING EACH OTHER WORDS IN JAPANESE AND ENGLISH.
In English
VERY GOOD!
SEA.
SKY.
SAND.
海
空
砂
NO NO!
VERY GOOD!
VERY GUD?
♪ twinkle twinkle little star ♪
NOTHING ELSE WAS VERY FUN FOR ME.
REIRA LIKED TO SING EVEN WHEN SHE WAS A KID.
♪ kira kira kira ♪
AND I LIKED TO HEAR HER SING.
TWINKLE STAR?
THE TWINKLE STAR SONG!
OH, I KNOW THAT.

REIRA'S PRETTY SINGING VOICE...
...
CLEARED THE TURBULENT AIR AROUND ME...
...EVEN IF JUST FOR THAT MOMENT.
MY DISCOM-FORT AROUND MY MOM, WHO WAS WEAKEN-ING WITH ILLNESS ...
...MY DISTRUST TOWARD MY DAD, WHO WAS DROWNING IN ALCOHOL...
...AND MY DISAPPOINT-MENT WITH MY OLDER SISTER, WHO WAS TURNING INTO A JUVENILE DELINQUENT 'CAUSE OF ALL THIS.
HEY SIS, WHERE'RE YOU GOING?
I'M HUNGRY.
GO MAKE SOME RAMEN!
TO THIS DAY, I STILL HATE TOP RAMEN.
I'LL COOK ANYTHING RATHER THAN EAT THAT.

SPLASH
IF...
...THEY WOULD SING WITH A VOICE LIKE HERS.
ALICE'S REALLY EXISTED.

CYNDI LAUPER!♡
AND THEY'D SMILE LIKE HER TOO.
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD
YOU SHOULD BE A SINGER, REIRA
I REALLY WANT TO SING
YOU CAN.
TAKUMI...
I LOVE YOU.

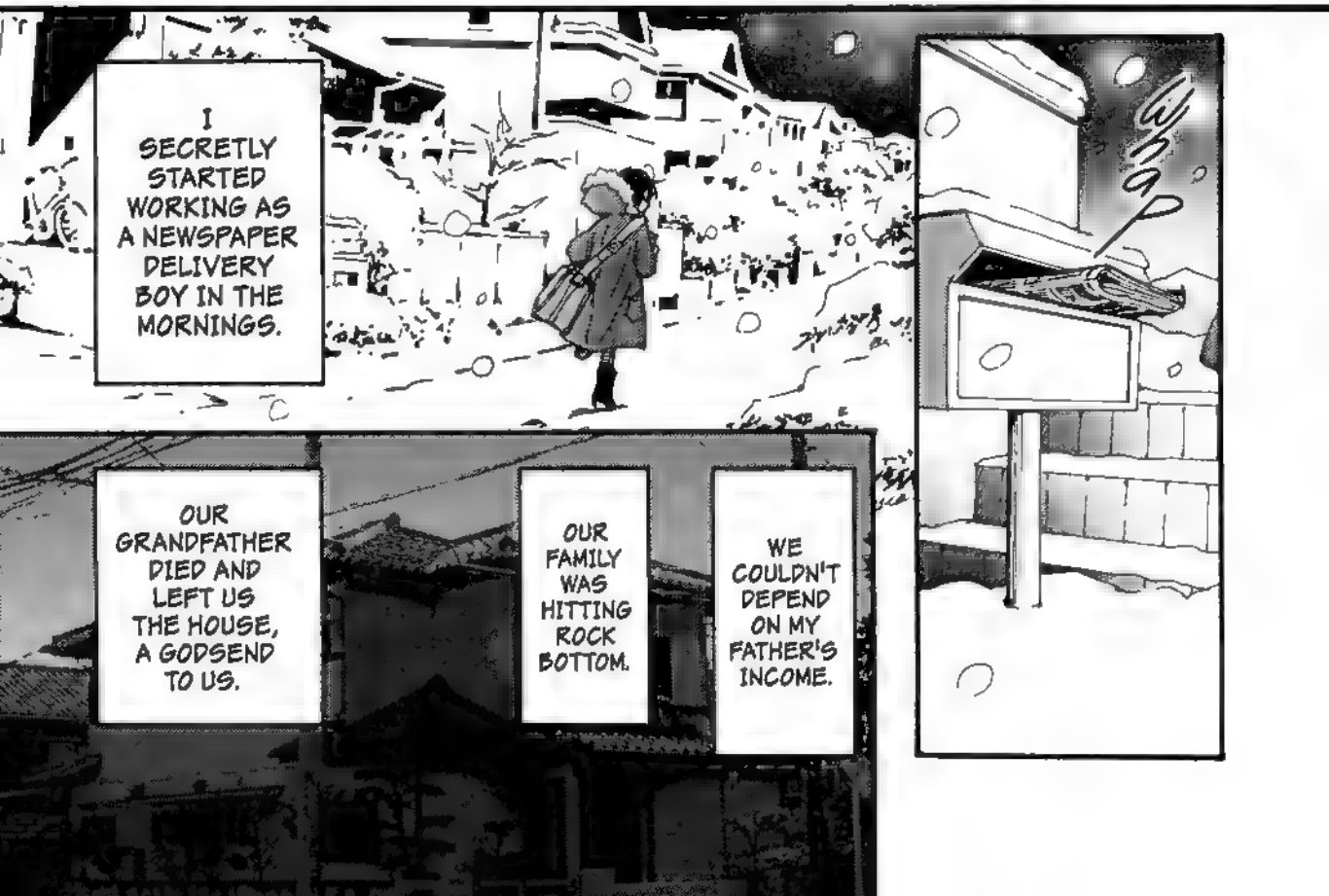
What're you doing?!

YOU CAN'T DO THAT!
KISS?♡
BUT WHY?!
BUT IN JAPAN, ONLY GROWN-UP COUPLES DO THAT.
DADDY ALWAYS KISSED ME.
WHY NOT?
EVERY-ONE KISSED ME.
...AND THE LADY NEXT DOOR KISSED ME TOO.
MY TEACH-ERS...

MOMMY LOOKS AT ME LIKE SHE DOESN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO.
BUT EVERYONE LOOKS AT ME WEIRD.
WELL...
I DON'T KNOW WHY.
NOW I'M STARTING TO TALK LIKE YOU.
JAPANESE PEOPLE DON'T LOVE ME.
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
"I WANNA SEE MY DAD."
I WANNA SEE MY DAD...
DO YOU WANNA GO BACK TO THE STATES?

BUT DON'T DO THAT IN FRONT OF OTHER PEOPLE, OKAY?
OKAY!
SMACK~♡
I LIKE YOU A LOT! ♡
I GET IT.

...BUT I KNEW THAT PEOPLE WOULD LOOK AT US WEIRD.
I DIDN'T REALLY KNOW WHY WE SHOULDN'T BE KISSING ...
REIRA WAS IN FOURTH GRADE. IT WAS SPRINGTIME.
I WAS IN FIFTH GRADE.


I SECRETLY STARTED WORKING AS A NEWSPAPER DELIVERY BOY IN THE MORNINGS.
whap
OUR GRANDFATHER DIED AND LEFT US THE HOUSE, A GODSEND TO US.
OUR FAMILY WAS HITTING ROCK BOTTOM.
WE COULDN'T DEPEND ON MY FATHER'S INCOME.

I'M NOT GONNA GO TO HIGH SCHOOL. I HAVE TO GET A JOB.
MOM NEEDS TO STAY IN THE HOSPITAL LONGER...
...AND IF WE DON'T HAVE MONEY, SHE CAN'T GET GOOD TREAT-MENT.
THANKS, SIS.
THAT'S A BIG HELP.

WHY IS SHE APOLO-GIZING TO ME?

YOU'RE STILL JUST A KID...

YOU'RE JUST A KID TOO, SIS.

I'LL WORK HARD...

...SO YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ANY-MORE.

I THOUGHT IT'D GET BETTER...
...IF MY SISTER CHANGED HER WAYS.
BUT THAT WASN'T THE CASE.
I REALLY WANTED TO KILL MY DAD...
...WHO WAS DRUNK AND PASSED OUT UPSTAIRS.

HEY, ICHI-NOSE!
CRASH
WHY'D YOU DO THAT, ICHINOSE?
IF THERE'S ANYTHING YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT, PLEASE TELL ME.
THERE'S NOTHING.
DON'T DO THINGS THAT'LL MAKE IT HARDER ON YOUR SICK MOTHER.

I CAN'T TAKE IT ANY-MORE.
WHEN'S SHE GONNA GET BETTER?
WHO'S MAKING THINGS HARDER ON WHO?
WHY DO US KIDS HAVE TO DO ALL THAT IN THIS FAMILY?!
WORRYING. MAKING MONEY. MANAGING STUFF.
TAKUMI!
GO BUY ME SOME SAKE.
SLAM
I WON'T LET THAT GOOD-FOR-NOTHING JERK...
IF YOU KILL HIM, YOU LOSE.
DON'T KILL HIM.

...DESTROY MY FUTURE!
Ahh
I DID IT AGAIN.
whoo~sh
IT'S COLD.
OOPS...
HE'S SCARY...

ANY-
WHERE
BUT
HERE.
I
WANNA
GO
SOME-
WHERE
FAR
AWAY.

knock
knock
creak
WHAD-DYA THINK?♡
DOES IT LOOK GOOD ON ME?
?
slip

BY THE WAY, YOUR UNIFORM'S GREAT.
IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
FORGET IT THEN.
NOTHING.
LEMME SEE!
WHAT IS IT?
DID YOU JUST HIDE SOMETHING?
IT'S A BOOK ON THE OCCULT.
ALL RIGHT, BUT SOMETHING BAD WILL HAPPEN IF YOU SEE IT.
YEAH. YOU LOOK SO CUTE IN IT.♡
THE CUTEST. ♡
REALLY ?
THANK YOU!♡
kiss♡

REIRA ...
HEY, LISTEN— ♡
I GOT SOME GREAT NEWS—
YOU CAN'T KISS ME ANY-MORE...
NOW THAT YOU'LL BE IN JUNIOR HIGH.
WHY CAN'T I KISS YOU WHEN I'M IN JUNIOR HIGH?
FROM NOW ON, YOU CAN ONLY DO THAT SORTA THING...
...WITH YOUR BOY-FRIEND.
THAT'S THE WAY IT IS.

THEN BE MY BOY-FRIEND.
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU SAYING?!
N.O.
NO WAY IN HELL.
I GOT A GIRL-FRIEND. ♡

I'M JUST LIKE A BIG BROTHER TO HER.
SHE WAS JUST CONFUSED FOR A SECOND.
PRETEND IT DIDN'T HAPPEN.
YOU'RE CUTE. YOU'LL GET A BOYFRIEND AS SOON AS YOU START JUNIOR HIGH.
SLAM
...
SHE'S A DADDY'S GIRL ANYWAYS.
SHE PROBABLY STILL THINKS STORKS DELIVER BABIES.
REIRA'S STILL TOTALLY NAÏVE.
I THINK I'M GONNA THROW UP.

...RUSHING INSIDE REIRA...
MY THICK COME, FILLED WITH LUST...
Oh!
IT'S TOO CREEPY.
KEEP IT DOWN.
.....
HEY ...

THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN.
.....
DON'T GET ALL MUSHY ON ME.
YOU'RE SO COOL.
I REALLY DO...
I LIKE YOU, TAKUMI.
I KNOW YOU LIKE IT.
NO "BUTS."
BUT YOU'RE ONLY 16.
THIS AIN'T GOOD.
BUT ...
IT MAKES ME FEEL GOOD.
I LIKE WATCHING YOU DO THAT.
...DO THINGS LIKE BREAK WINDOWS.
MOST PEOPLE DON'T...
I DON'T HATE DUMB GIRLS, BUT...
I THOUGHT SHE WAS STUPID.
SHE'S STUPID.
SSSS+

DON'T MAKE FUN OF ME.
WHAT'S WRONG?
FORGET IT.
WHAT?
WHY?
Creak
ANYONE CAN BREAK A WINDOW.
I'M GONNA DO SOMETHING NO ONE ELSE CAN.
slam
COOL!♡
SOMETHING NO ONE ELSE CAN DO.
SOMETHING ONLY I CAN DO.
Hey! Yuchi-nose!
Get back to class!

IS THERE ANY-THING?
NAH.
HUH?
CURRY AGAIN?
...
I GOT DRAGGED INTO THE NEIGHBOR-HOOD RUMOR MILL AND HEARD ABOUT IT.
SHE WON SOME KIND OF CONTEST.
OF COURSE SHE WOULD. SHE'S SO CUTE.
REIRA'S GOING INTO SHOWBIZ.
HEY, HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

I GOT SOME GREAT NEWS—
YOU'RE REALLY GOOD.
I REALLY WANNA SING.
SHOW-BIZ?
WE DON'T HAVE THAT OUT HERE IN THE BOONIES.
AND REIRA'S JUST A KID.
WHERE WOULD THEY SHIP HER OFF TO, ALL BY HER-SELF?
click
I HAVE TO PUT THE KIBOSH ON THAT!
creak
HELLO!
WHAT'D YOU COME HERE FOR?
IT'S TOO LATE TO COME OVER FOR SOMEONE WHO'S NOT MY BOY-FRIEND!

PROBABLY SOME GUY...
OH...
THIS LATE?
SHE'S WORK-ING.
WHERE'S YOUR MOM?
BY THE WAY, I HEARD YOU WON SOME SINGING CONTEST.
SHE'S BEEN SO BUSY LATELY AND COMES HOME LATE SOMETIMES.
WHAT ?!
IT'S A COMMER-CIAL.
NO.
SO WHAT'RE YOU TRYING TO DO?
COOL, HUH?
IT'S A TV COMMERCIAL FOR SOME SNACK. I PASSED THEIR SCREEN TEST. ♡
I THOUGHT YOU WANTED TO BE A SINGER.
THE AUDI-TION'S NEXT SUNDAY IN TOKYO.
BUT I THINK I'M GONNA GET IT! ♡
DON'T BELIEVE THE HYPE.
SO YOU DIDN'T WIN.
.....

So forget it.
RIGHT?
SCHOOL FINALLY GOT BEARABLE FOR ME.
I DON'T WANT THAT...
REALLY?
THAT'S NOT TRUE.
BUT IF I GET IN A COMMERCIAL, IT'LL BE EASIER TO BECOME A SINGER TOO.♡
IF YOU'RE ON TV, EVERYONE WILL PICK ON YOU AGAIN. THEY'LL SAY "JUST 'CAUSE YOU'RE CUTE," "YOU THINK YOU'RE SO GREAT..."
YOU HAVE AMAZING TALENT ...
...SO I'LL LOOK INTO THE RIGHT WAY FOR YOU TO GO ABOUT BEING A SINGER.
YOU WILL?
SO WHAT KIND OF SINGER DO YOU WANNA BE?
I CAN'T.
BE A SINGER-SONG-WRITER.
IF YOU'RE JUST LIKE "WHATEVER," GROWN-UPS WILL MAKE YOU SING STUPID SONGS FOR MONEY.
THAT'S A TOTALLY DIFFERENT SKILL.
I DON'T KNOW HOW TO WRITE SONGS.
YOU GOTTA GIVE ME SOMETHING TO WORK WITH.
.....
AS LONG AS I'M SINGING, I DON'T CARE! ♡

YOU THINK ?
I FEEL LIKE I CAN COME UP WITH SONGS ALL THE TIME.
REALLY?!
WHAT'S SO CRAZY ABOUT THAT?!
IT'S FAN-TASTIC!
THEN WRITE SONGS FOR ME!
THAT'S IT!
HUH?
GULP!

I UNDERSTAND WHAT'S GOOD ABOUT REIRA'S VOICE MORE THAN ANYONE.
IT'S SOMETHING ONLY I CAN DO!
I WON'T LET ANYONE ELSE DO THAT.
I'LL WRITE ALL THE SONGS FOR YOU TO SING, REIRA.
.....
SO THAT'S THAT, THEN.
TAKUMI!

I CAN'T EVEN PLAY AN INSTRU-MENT.
BUT WHAT IF I CAN'T WRITE SONGS?
THEY JUST CAME TO ME.
BUT SUR-PRISINGLY, I REALLY COULD WRITE SONGS.
CLEAK
SO NO MORE AUDITIONS WITHOUT MY PERMISSION, ALL RIGHT?
ALL RIGHT. ♡

IT WAS AS IF A DOOR THAT'D BEEN SHUT IN MY MIND SUDDENLY BLEW OPEN.

WITH REIRA'S VOICE IN MY HEAD, I CAME UP WITH SONG AFTER SONG.

LET ME HEAR THEM.
WHAT KINDA SONGS ARE THEY?
HEY, WHAT ABOUT A BAND?
A BAND?
gulp
A ROCK BAND!
THERE'S NOTHING REALLY WRONG WITH THEM, THEY'RE JUST BORING.
EVEN WITH YOUR VOICE AND MY SONGS, IT'S TOO PLAIN. IT'S TOO FORMAL.
WHAT'S NOT RIGHT?
I THINK IT'D BE REALLY COOL IF WE DID HEAVY ROCK SONGS WITH YOUR BEAUTIFUL VOICE.
I'M INTO IT TOO.
YOU'RE INTO ROCK 'N' ROLL 'CAUSE OF YOUR DAD.
RIGHT THEN IN MY MIND...
YOU COULD WEAR FAIRY TALE PRINCESS CLOTHES, BUT SING IN A COOL STYLE.
IT'D BE GREAT.
...KINDA FAN-TASTIC.
BUT WE'LL HAVE MORE COMPLEX ARRANGE-MENTS, MAKE THE SONGS GOR-GEOUS ...
Baseball Club

WEARING GORGEOUS COSTUMES AND SINGING ROCK SONGS IN A LOUD, CLEAR VOICE.
...I ALREADY ENVIS-IONED REIRA LIKE SHE IS NOW.
THE ONE AND ONLY DIVA.

THEN I'LL DO IT!
A BAND!
THAT MEANS YOU'RE IN THE BAND TOO?
OF COURSE.
I'M THE LEADER.
BUT I DON'T HAVE THE DOUGH TO BUY INSTRUMENTS.
AND IT'D BE TOO HARD TO SHOPLIFT BIG THINGS LIKE THAT...
ESPECIALLY THE DRUMS.
NO WAY.
IF WE START A MUSIC CLUB, THE SCHOOL WILL BUY THE BASIC INSTRUMENTS.
THE SCHOOL BAND HAS INSTRUMENTS.
THIS BAT BELONGS TO THE BASEBALL CLUB.
Gack
WHA ...?
I KNOW!
Baseball Club
I CAN MAKE THE NEWER STUDENTS PAY THE CLUB FEES.♡

I WANNA START A POP MUSIC CLUB. WHAT DO I DO?
HEY, STUDENT BODY PRESI-DENT!
Ichinose-kun! Get back to class!
THIS SUCKS. I'M JUST A JUVENILE DELIN-QUENT.
BUT THE TEACHERS WOULD NEVER LISTEN TO ME.
I DID IT ALL BY THE BOOK AND GOT SIGNA-TURES FROM STUDENTS WHO WANTED TO JOIN THE CLUB.
BUT THERE WASN'T EVEN ONE STUDENT WHO I WANTED TO BE IN A BAND WITH.
Heh heh heh heh
IF YOU HELP ME, I WON'T RAT YOU OUT ABOUT SMOKING. ♡
.....
THE PRINCESS HAS TO BE SUR-ROUNDED BY GOOD-LOOKIN' BAND-MATES.
Look at these dorks!
ISN'T THERE AT LEAST ONE HOT STUDENT TO BE HER PRINCE?

THAT'S HIM!
A PRINCE WITH NO BRAINS!
GLO—W
2.1 Fujieda
SO YOU'RE A GLAM ROCKER?
YOU'RE INTO GLITTER.
YEAH! ♡
MY MOM HAS A LOTTA THOSE RECORDS, SO I GOT INTO THEM.
LET'S PLAY THAT STUFF!
NOT MY THING.
I'M GONNA WRITE MY OWN SONGS AND HAVE REIRA SING.
GO PLAY WITH SOME-ONE ELSE.
WE'LL PLAY MUSIC TOGETHER AFTER BOTH OF US GET BETTER.
IF HE RESISTS, I'LL JUST KIDNAP HIM.
FINE— YOU LOVEY-DOVEYS!
.....
I DON'T CARE ABOUT RIGHT NOW...
I GOT MY EYE ON THE FUTURE.

A FUTURE THAT'LL GET ME OUTTA THIS PLACE.

I HATED SCHOOL, SO IT'S FINE.
WHAT ARE YOU SAY-ING?!
WELL, YOU CAN'T BE THE ONLY ONE WORKING.
BUT YOU'RE SMART, TAKUMI, SO AT LEAST GO TO HIGH SCHOOL!
NO, IT'S NOT!
IT'S A WASTE OF MONEY.
SERI-OUSLY?
NO, I HATE SCHOOL TOO.

WITHOUT A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA, IT'S HARD TO GET A DECENT JOB AND IT'S HARD TO GET A PROMOTION.
THAT'S JUST THE WAY IT IS. PLEASE, GO TO HIGH SCHOOL.
BUT ...
IF YOU FEEL GUILTY ABOUT ME, YOU CAN PAY ME BACK LATER.
I'M WORKING SO THAT YOU CAN GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
PLEASE UNDER-STAND.
ALL RIGHT.
BUT YOU'RE RIGHT, PRIVATE SCHOOL'S TOO EXPENSIVE, SO GET INTO A PUBLIC ONE.
NO PROB-LEM.
AFTER I STARTED HIGH SCHOOL, I FOUND A BETTER GUITARIST FOR THE BAND.
THAT'S WHEN WE STARTED BEING MORE LIKE A REAL BAND, SO WE COULD ACTUALLY PLAY OUT.

MAKE THE BAND SUCCESSFUL AND SOMEDAY GIVE MY SISTER A LIFE OF LUXURY.
EVEN IF IT WAS A WASTE OF MONEY, I WAS GONNA GRADUATE
I BROUGHT YOU LUNCH
TAKUMI-♡
WHY DO ALL THE GIRLS LIKE THAT SCREW-UP?
MAKES NO SENSE.
...SO SCHOOL WAS BASICALLY WHERE I GOT SOME SLEEP
I WAS EXHAUSTED, GOING TO THE STUDIO EVERY DAY AND WORKING PART-TIME AT NIGHT
SHE EVEN TAKES CARE OF OUR ALCOHOLIC DAD, WHEN SHE SHOULD JUST FORGET ABOUT HIM.
...WON'T ACCEPT ANY MONEY FROM ME, SAYING HER HUSBAND MAKES ENOUGH.
BUT EVEN NOW, MY SISTER ...
...BUT HONESTLY, I'M SAD 'CAUSE IT PUTS ME IN A WEIRD POSITION.
PEOPLE SAY MY SISTER'S GENEROUS AND RESPONSIBLE ...

COFFEE
I'M PREG-NANT...
DON'T SAY YOU WANNA KEEP THE BABY!
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?
I'LL GET AN ABORTION, OF COURSE!
BUT I NEED MONEY FOR THAT.
DAMN!
No entry
NOT LIKE I CAN LET YOU HAVE THE BABY, BUT...
YOU AL-READY DECIDED ?!
.....

IT COSTS ¥100,000.
IT'S SO EXPENSIVE.
WHAT DO I DO?
IS THAT SO EXPENSIVE?
I THINK IT'S CHEAP, CONSIDERING YOU'RE GETTING RID OF A LIFE.
THEN DO SOMETHING!
I KNOW...
DON'T GET MAD AT ME.
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, TAKUMI!
'CAUSE YOU WOULDN'T USE A CONDOM!
BUT YOU KNEW AND WENT ALONG WITH IT.
IT'S YOUR FAULT TOO.
AT BEST, I CAN ONLY COME UP WITH ABOUT ¥50,000. CAN'T YOU SCRAPE TOGETHER THE REST YOURSELF?

YOU SUCK!
I HATE YOU!
I HOPE YOU DIE!
WHAT THE HELL?
.....
YOU SHOULD BE THINKING ABOUT SOMETHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE FACT THAT I SUCK OR THAT I SHOULD DIE.
I DON'T GET GIRLS AT ALL.

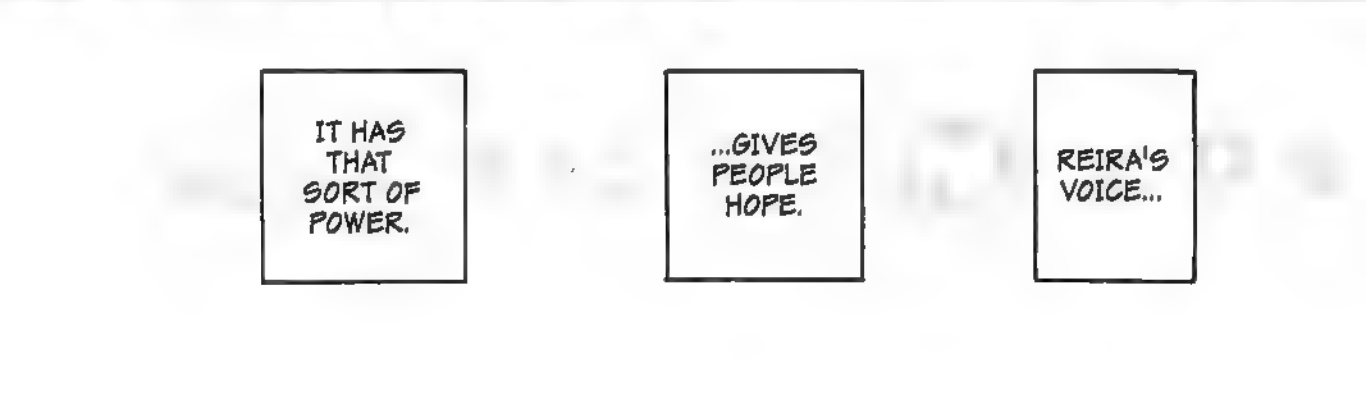
BUT I DON'T GET PAID 'TIL THE END OF THE MONTH.
I GUESS I HAVE TO SCRAPE TOGETHER THE WHOLE ¥100,000.
BUT WHAT SHOULD I DO?

病院

♪ If you're lost you can look-
and you will find me
...TO KILL MY SPAWN.
THE MONEY I MAKE TO KEEP MY MOM ALIVE, I NOW HAVE TO SPEND...
Tomomi Ichinose
Tanak
chak
WHAT THE HELL AM I DOING?
♪ Time after time
♪ If you fall
I will catch you-
I'll be waiting
♪ Time after time

♪ Time after time ....

...THAT SHE WAS ABLE TO LIVE UNTIL THE SUMMER OF 12TH GRADE.
I SECRETLY BELIEVE IT WAS BECAUSE OF REIRA...
...DIDN'T SEEM LIKE SHE WAS GOING TO LIVE MUCH LONGER.
BUT BY THEN, MY MOM...


IT HAS THAT SORT OF POWER.
...GIVES PEOPLE HOPE.
REIRA'S VOICE...

SMACK
THANK YOU SO MUCH.
IF SHE'S GETTING AN ABORTION, THE SOONER THE BETTER.
HOPE
IT'S FOR THE GIRL.
IT'S NOT FOR YOU.
I'M NOT SAYING YOU SHOULDN'T DO IT, BUT AT LEAST USE A CONDOM.
DUH!
I DON'T GET IT.
EVEN IF HE'S RICH, WHY WOULD HE LOAN MONEY TO A STUPID GIRL HE'S NEVER MET?
WHAT THE—

Dammit
'CAUSE OF MY SITUATION.
BUT I CAN'T SAY ANYTHING NOW.
BUT WHAT I REALLY DON'T GET IS WHY HE SUDDENLY SHAVED HIS HEAD, RIGHT BEFORE WINTER.
THEN PUT IT IN WRITING.
I OWE YOU A LOT.
I'LL PAY YOU BACK WHEN I GET PAID AT THE END OF THE MONTH.
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.
IOU
OF COURSE.
THIS IS JUST DUE PROCESS.
I WON'T CHARGE YOU MUCH INTEREST.
YOU DON'T TRUST ME?!
tap
YOU'RE CHARGING ME INTEREST?!

IT'S A COLD WORLD.

I DIDN'T WANT TO DEAL WITH GIRLS IF I DIDN'T HAVE TO.
Student Council
GIRLS ARE SO SELFISH.
SHE DIDN'T CARE HOW EMPTY I FELT.
.....
NO...
SHIVER
SHE'S SMART AND SHE'S HORNY.
SHE'S A GOOD GIRL.
OOH...
NAUGHTY BOY.
I'LL GET IMPEACHED.
WHAT IF SOMEONE COMES IN?
HEY—
BUT I COULD NEVER CONTROL MY MANLY URGES.
Heh heh
THEN DON'T GET ON TOP OF ME.
WANNA STOP?
AS LONG AS I GET OFF, I'M HAPPY.
What do I do—?
SHE'S HOT.
Whoa!

I'M APPLYING TO THE SAME HIGH SCHOOL AS YOU! ♡
THERE WAS NO TIME TO DEAL WITH THE EMPTINESS INSIDE.
beep beep beep
WHAT'S THAT LOOK FOR?
beep beep beep
beep
NOTH-ING.
YOU CAN GO TO SCHOOL THERE, BUT DON'T TALK TO ME TOO MUCH.
MY GIRL-FRIEND WILL GET JEALOUS.
OH.
IT'S NAOKI.
I'LL MAKE HIM SELL TICKETS.
TAKUMI ?

HELLO!

I'M LAYLA SERIZAWA!

HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN SINCE THEN?
AND SHE'LL ONLY GET EVEN MORE LOVELY.
JUST AS I THOUGHT, SHE'S GROWN QUITE BEAUTIFUL.

FINE!
creak
slam
WHAT THE HELL?
dash
I REALLY DON'T UNDER-STAND GIRLS.
BUT SHE SAID "FINE," SO I GUESS IT'S ALL RIGHT.
IT'S ABOUT TIME SHE GRADU-ATED FROM HER OLDER BROTHER COMPLEX.

WHAT AM I TO YOU?

♪
HOW HARSH. NOW I'M JUST A JUVENILE DELIN-QUENT.
WAS SHE JUST PLAY-ING ME?
REALLY?
YOU'RE SO SWEET.
I brought you lunch!
BUT SOON I WAS SURROUNDED BY HOT, EASY FRESHMEN.
WHAT THE—
BYE-BYE! SEE YA AROUND!
SPRING CAME, REIRA STARTED AT MY SCHOOL, AND MY SWEET VICE-PREZ GRADUATED.
Heh heh
AND AFTER WE STARTED PLAYING SHOWS, FAN GIRLS SWARMED US...
Takumi!
I ALSO HAD A GIRLFRIEND AT ANOTHER SCHOOL THAT I SAW SOMETIMES.

WHAT TIME ARE YOU FREE?
STUDIO BLUE MOON
I'M SICK OF HER.
TIME TO DITCH THIS ONE.
LET'S GO TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK!
AND I'M BUSY.
THERE ARE TOO MANY. IT'S TOO MUCH.
...SO I HAD NO PROB-LEMS GETTING GIRLS.
VACANCY
stay ...
rest ...

THEN YOU WANT TO HAVE DINNER TOGETHER?
...
ME TOO. ♡
SURE! ♡
AT SEVEN.
...REIRA WAS LOOKING AT BALDY WITH GOOGLY EYES.
BEFORE I KNEW IT...
flip
I WANTED TO SHOUT IT ALL OUT, BUT I DIDN'T.
DON'T GET INVOLVED.
I DIDN'T NEED THAT FLAUNTED IN MY FACE.
I JUST WANTED TO GET OUT OF THERE.
Don't be fooled!
HE'S DOING IT WITH THE FAN GIRLS TOO!
WHAT'S SO GREAT ABOUT THAT LOAN SHARK THUG?!
Puff

MY YOUTH IS OVER!
REIRA SMOOCHED BALDY!
MY FRUST-RATION GOT MORE INTENSE.
IT'S TOO EARLY
WOW, WHAT A HUGE TREE.
ALL RIGHT, SWEETIE. ♡
I GOT NOWHERE TO GO
CAN I STAY OVER FOR A WHILE?
HEY, REN
...
IT'S ALL RIGHT

YOU SAD, TAKUMI?
NO, I'M FINE.
Employment
POOR GUY...
WHAT ABOUT YOU?!

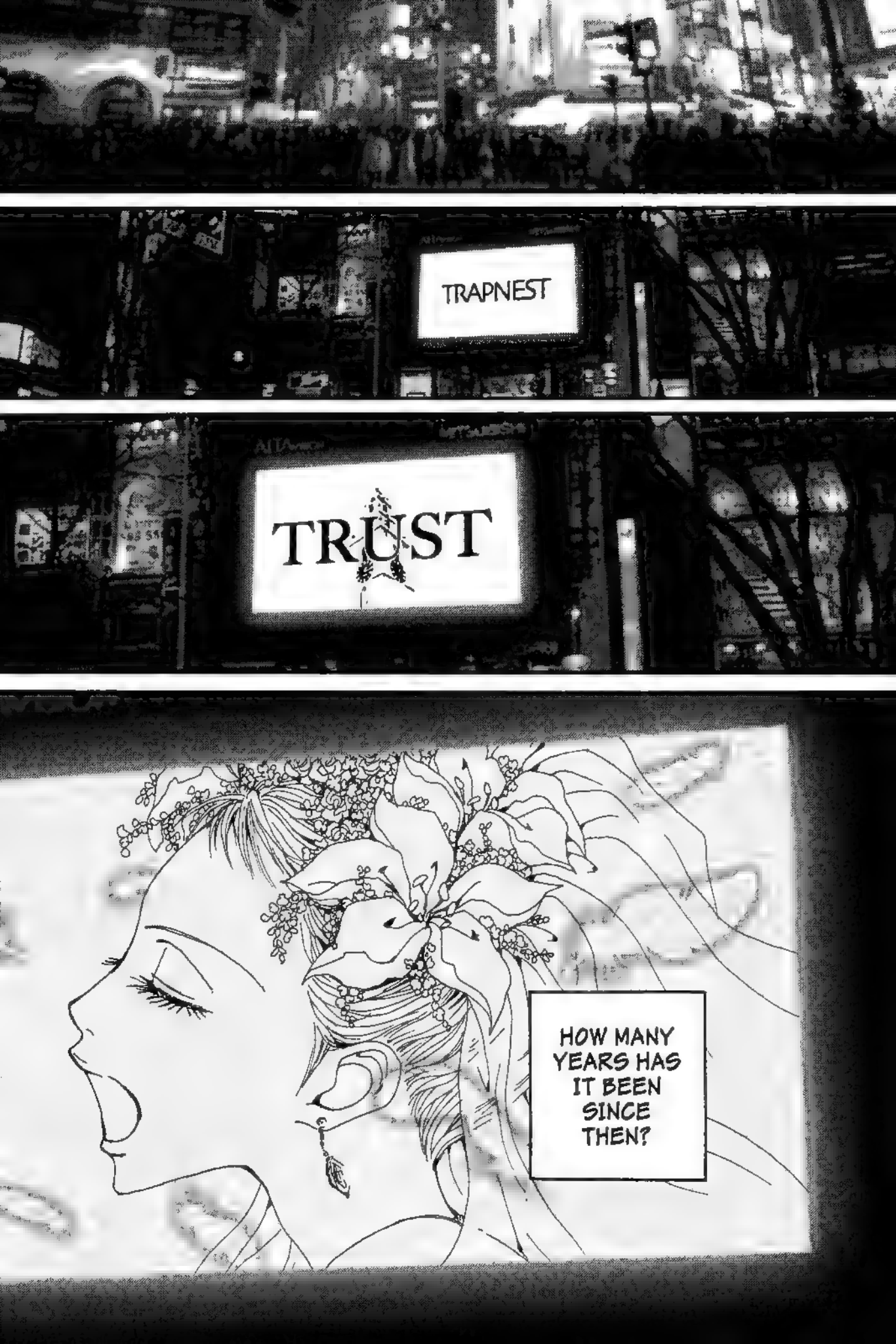
WHAT-EVER YASU LOVES, I LOVE TOO.
THAT'S THE SECRET OF LOVE.
Shion, she's so cool!♡
I DON'T GET IT.
THIS IS WHY GROUPIES ...
FAN GIRLS HAVE IT PRETTY HARD TOO.
MAYBE I SORT OF GET IT.
ALL RIGHT, I HAVE TO GO.
I HAVE TO STUDY.
YOU CAN STAY.
MOM'S COMING HOME FROM WORK LATE TONIGHT.
I THINK SHE'S ON A DATE.
BUT I'VE GOT BOUND-ARIES.
CAN I SMOKE?
WE'RE GOING OUT WITH EACH OTHER. YOU DON'T HAVE TO HOLD BACK ANYTHING.
YOU'RE SO MORAL. AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A PUNK?
...

I DON'T WANT TO JUST CHIRP INSIDE A BIRDCAGE ANY-MORE.
I KNOW, BUT...
.....
I'M IN HIGH SCHOOL!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO DO THAT!
I'M INTO SEX TOO!
TURN OVER A NEW LEAF.
BUT I REALLY WANT TO RESPECT YOU, SERIOUSLY.
I WANT TO SHATTER TAKUMI'S ILLUSIONS, NOW!
DON'T TALK ABOUT HIM ANY-MORE.

...AND I WAS ANNOYED A LOT WITHOUT KNOWING WHY.
I WAS AT THE PEAK OF MY YOUTH THEN...
BUT NOW I UNDER-STAND WHAT WAS GOING ON.

WHAT AM I TO YOU?

...WAS MY SANC-TUARY.
REIRA ...
SHE WAS MY SACRED ANGEL THAT I COULD NEVER VIOLATE.
...IN THIS DIRTY, DISAP-POINTING WORLD.
I NEEDED SOME-THING SOLID LIKE THAT...


TRAPNEST
TRUST
HOW MANY YEARS HAS IT BEEN SINCE THEN?

WHEN YOUR DREAMS COME TRUE...
...EVERY-THING TURNS INTO SIMPLE REALITY AND LOSES ITS GLAMOUR.
IT'S IRONIC, CONSIDERING THAT OUR JOB IS TO PRESENT A DREAM TO THE PUBLIC.

BUT RIGHT NOW, SOMEONE IS BEING SAVED SOME-WHERE...
...BY LISTEN-ING TO REIRA'S VOICE IN OUR SONGS.
SO DON'T EVER STOP SING-ING...

...BY MY SIDE, IF POSSIBLE.

Hello. They found something wrong with me during the thorough physical checkup I mentioned in volume 17. I went to the hospital, I gave up smoking for a while, and in the end, I had an operation. I'm finally getting better. I apologize for making people worry. During my hospital stay after my surgery, the beautiful nurse inserted a painkiller suppository as if it was nothing and told me "I'm a big fan ♥." I was really embarrassed! ☺ Thanks for taking care of me. Thank you!

Ai Yazawa is the creator of many popular manga titles, including *Tenshi Nanka Janai* (I'm No Angel) and *Gokinjo Monogatari* (Neighborhood Story). Another series, *Kagen no Tsuki* (Last Quarter), was made into a live-action movie and released in late 2004. American readers were introduced to Yazawa's stylish and sexy storytelling in 2002 when her title *Paradise Kiss* was translated into English.

Nana has become the all-time best-selling shojo title from Japanese publishing giant Shueisha, and the series even garnered a Shogakukan Manga Award in the girls category in 2003. A live-action *Nana* movie was released in Japan in 2006.

Shojo Beat

NANA
VOL. 18

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STORY AND ART BY AI YAZAWA

English Adaptation/Allison Wolfe
Translation/Tomo Kimura
Touch-up Art & Lettering/Sabrina Heep
Design/Julie Behn
Editor/Pancha Diaz

VP, Production/Alvin Lu
VP, Publishing Licensing/Rika Inouye
VP, Sales & Product Marketing/Gonzalo Ferreyra
VP, Creative/Linda Espinosa
Publisher/Hyoe Narita

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